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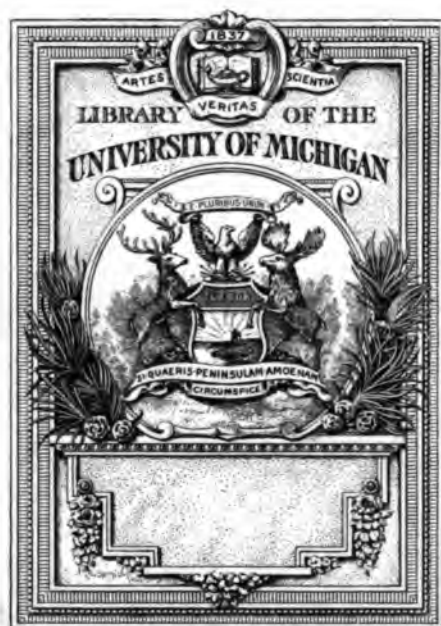
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THE  
HISTORY  
OF THE  
Parish of Poulton-le-Fylde,  
IN THE  
COUNTY OF LANCASTER.

BY  
HENRY FISHWICK, F.S.A.,

*Author of "The History of the Parochial Chapel of Goosnargh,"*

*"The History of the Parish of Garstang,"*

*"The Lancashire Library," &c.*

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1885.



## CONTENTS.

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	PAGES
<i>CHAPTER I.</i>	
GENERAL HISTORY - - - - -	1-36
<i>CHAPTER II.</i>	
ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY - - - - -	37-64
<i>CHAPTER III.</i>	
THE VICARS - - - - -	65-87
<i>CHAPTER IV.</i>	
THE CHURCHWARDENS AND REGISTERS - - -	88-114
<i>CHAPTER V.</i>	
THE PUBLIC CHARITIES - - - - -	115-122
<i>CHAPTER VI.</i>	
OLD HALLS AND OLD FAMILIES - - - - -	123-188
<i>CHAPTER VII.</i>	
MISCELLANY - - - - -	189-206
APPENDIX - - - - -	207-210
GENERAL INDEX - - - - -	211-213
INDEX OF NAMES - - - - -	215-232

valuable assistance. I must also acknowledge my indebtedness to Dr. WINN of Poulton, JOSEPH GILLOW, Esq., of Bowdon, J. E. BAILEY, Esq., F.S.A., of Stretford, the Rev. Canon TONGE of Manchester, and the late PAUL HARRISON THORNBUR of Poulton.

The Index of Names has been compiled by my daughter JANE.

H. F.

THE HEIGHTS,  
ROCHDALE,  
*September, 1885.*



## ERRATA.

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- Page 4, line 14, *for* "where," *read* "were."
- „ 22, line 3 from the bottom, *for* "Marler," *read* "Marton."
- „ 60, line 7, *after* "St. John, ix. 31]," *add* "Christopher and Margery Albin,  
1752."
- „ 176, line 7 from the bottom, *for* "by his," *read* "Thomas Hodgson by."



# The History of Poulton-le-Fylde.

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## CHAPTER I.

---

### GENERAL HISTORY.

THE Fylde from the north-west corner of the parish of Lytham to Rossall Point presents an almost straight line of coast of about eleven miles in length, following this coast to Fleetwood, turning up the river Wyre to Skippool, and then taking the boundary lines of Kirkham and Lytham, we have the original parish of Poulton-le-Fylde, out of which has been taken the parish of Bispham.<sup>1</sup> Poulton comprises an area of 14,289 acres, and is divided into five townships, viz., Thornton, Carleton, Marton, Hardhorn-with-Newton, and Poulton.

The evidence of the pre-Roman occupation of the district is of the most meagre description; and is rendered more so by the fact that none of the articles from time to time discovered appear to have been preserved.

The Ordnance Map indicates a place near Robbin's Row, in Marton, as the spot where a bronze celt was found; and Thornber, in his *History of Blackpool*,<sup>2</sup> says that he possessed a Celtic axe which was found not far from the same place, lying on the peat about a yard below the surface; it was made of "an alloy of copper and tin, rudely cast, and when found had a handle of more than a yard in length, being nearly the thickness of a man's wrist;

<sup>1</sup> The History of Bispham will form a separate volume.

<sup>2</sup> Page 38.

at the side of the instrument was a loop, apparently for attaching it to the person." A brass axe, a small oblong amulet of foreign white soft marble, and several coracles or canoes made of ribs of wood covered with hides, were found in cutting the main dyke of Marton Mere.<sup>1</sup>

The Roman road which passed through Kirkham<sup>2</sup> continued its course through Poulton, on its way to the estuary of the Wyre. The first trace of it is in what was once the bed of Marton Mere, where, in 1880, its gravel was two yards thick; when it was first discovered it was twelve yards wide, and Mr. Thornber, who saw it at that time, says that there were no signs of ruts or vehicular traffic, except sledges, one of which was found there, and parts of which were in 1850 used for gate posts at a neighbouring farm house. About two miles from Marton Mere, close to the village of Hardhorn, and near Puddle House, the "road again was visible, though its gravel had been removed, and it was making for Poulton."<sup>3</sup>

Mr. Thornber<sup>4</sup> was of opinion that after leaving Poulton the road passed near Little Poulton Hall, having only a branch to Poulton Hill; on the high ground of the Town Fields there is a track of an ancient road which evidently was gravelled, over the low lands, and this road leads, by a curious cut, through the banks of the Wyre to the Shard.<sup>5</sup> At Bourne we have again traces of this road in what is locally known as "Dane's Pad," and in the rabbit warren at Fleetwood, about the year 1835, some workmen excavating a trench for the foundation of a sea wall opposite Mount Terrace, at some depth below the sand, found a portion of road with its pavement complete.<sup>6</sup> This confirms Mr.

<sup>1</sup> On authority of the Rev. Mr. Buck of Agecroft Hall, near Swinton, as quoted by Thornber, p. 18.

<sup>2</sup> *History of Kirkham*, p. 3.

<sup>3</sup> Lancashire and Cheshire Historical Society, vol. iii. p. 65.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 66.

<sup>5</sup> The Shard in early deeds is often called "Aldweth" or "Aldewath," = the old ford. (See p. 6.)

<sup>6</sup> W. T. Watkin's *Roman Lancashire*, p. 76.

Thornber's statement that a trace of the road was exposed in the warren at a place called "Abbot's Walk,"<sup>1</sup> but as Mr. Watkin, in his *Roman Lancashire*, justly observes, the sea has made such encroachments on the coast at this point that "how far the road proceeded will never probably be known."

On the authority of Dodsworth, in 1555 a sudden irruption of the sea washed away a whole village near Rossall Grange, called Singleton Thorp, the site of which is now known as "Singleton Skeer."

The termination of this Roman road was probably at or near the point where the Wyre emptied itself into the estuary of the Lune, which would not have been an unfavourable place for the *Portus Setantiorum* to have been located, and most modern writers on the subject are of opinion that it was either here or on the Lune at Lancaster, but unless further evidence is discovered it is impossible to come to a positive decision on the point.

The late Mr. John Just was very decided in his opinion that on the Wyre, and not at Lancaster, was the harbour of the Sisstuntian Port.<sup>2</sup>

In 1840 some workmen found in a brickfield belonging to Mr. Walmsley, between Rossall Point and Fenny, and near to the Fleetwood landmark, upwards of four hundred Roman coins (*denarii*), forty of which were taken possession of by Mr. Thornber (and it is presumed are lost), and the remainder by the late Sir Hesketh Fleetwood of Rossall; these were afterwards sold to Alderman Browne of Preston, whose son, Dr. Browne, has recently presented them to the Cross Street Museum, Preston. They have been carefully classified, with the following result — Constantius II., 14; Julianus, 28; Valentinianus I., 15; Valens, 46; Gratianus, 64; Magnus Maximus, 11; Flavius Victor (son of Maximus), 6; Valentinianus II., 8; Theodosius I., 19; Eugenius, 14; Arcadius, 113; Honorius, 52; illegible, 1; frag-

<sup>1</sup> *History of Blackpool*, p. 9.

<sup>2</sup> *Lancashire and Cheshire Historical Society*, vol. iii. p. 3; also Wright's *The Celt, the Roman, and the Saxon*.



mentary, 10. They thus cover a period of fifty-five years, commencing *circa* A.D. 353: Mr. W. T. Watkin thinks they were concealed in the first decade of the fifth century, at the time of the abandonment of Britain by the Romans, and pronounces them to be the latest in point of date yet discovered in Lancashire.<sup>1</sup>

The coins of Flavius Victor and Eugenius are very rare.

It is remarkable that Thornber in describing this *find* distinctly states that the coins were of Trajan, Hadrian, Vespasian, Titus, Domitian, Antoninus, Severus, Caracalla, Sabina, Faustina,<sup>2</sup> &c. The questions which this discrepancy raises are, were the coins retained by Mr. Thornber of the earlier dates just named, thus making the collection to cover several centuries (a thing not likely), is his description wrong, or where there two finds at Fenny in 1840, and both of 400 coins?

In September, 1852, a coin of the reign of Domitian, the letters "Dom" only were decipherable, the rest being corroded, was found at Breck, near the Poulton railway station. Near to the church two copper coins of Hadrian were discovered, and in a garden behind the Market place a large medal of Germanicus was dug up.<sup>3</sup>

After the final departure of the Romans (about the year 420), this district was doubtless more or less inhabited by the Saxons and the Danes, who gave the names to very many places which they have retained to this day, as witness, Poulton (Pol-tun), Thornton, Carleton, Marton, Holmes, Whiteholme, Trunnah, Stevna, Breck, Ritherham, Ketelesholmwarthura; in the field names we have leys, carrs, greaves, butts, and a host of others, all of which bear evidence of the same owners. On all the old maps of Lancashire, the west side of the Wyre between Stana and Fleetwood is marked Bergerode, which is probably the Anglo-Saxon Beorg-rade, a refuge or shelter, or a safe harbour.

<sup>1</sup> The *Palatine Note Book*, vol. iii. p. 170.

<sup>2</sup> Lancashire and Cheshire Historical Society, vol. iii. p. 66.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. iii. p. 65.

During the long period of the Heptarchy, and indeed until the time of William the Conqueror, history is silent as to the doings of the inhabitants of the Fylde, but it may safely be asserted that the district was the scene of many ravaging wars, and that its people were visited with at least one severe famine. At the taking of the Domesday survey, Roger de Poictou held all the lands in the parish, which are thus described :

"Rushale [Rossall] two carucates ; Brune [Burn]<sup>1</sup> two carucates ; Torentum [Thornton] six carucates ; Staininghe [Staining] six carucates ; Poltun [Poulton] two carucates ; Meretun [Marton] six carucates ; Carlentu[m] [Carleton] four carucates."

In the hundred of Amounderness there are sixty-two places named, of which it is said sixteen "vills have few inhabitants, but how many there may be is not known, the rest are waste." The twenty-six carucates just detailed would represent about 2,600 acres of land as being then under some kind of cultivation.

In or about the year 1094, Roger, Earl of Poictou, gave to the monastery of St. Mary of Lancaster one carucate of land in Poulton and the church with another carucate and all its appurtenances.<sup>2</sup>

Other landowners in Poulton during the next two centuries added to the endowment of the same priory, amongst others Walter the son of William de Mora,<sup>3</sup> Alice the widow of William le Wayt,<sup>4</sup> Richard son of Walthew de Pulton,<sup>5</sup> Radulphus de Grenole,<sup>6</sup> Almeric de Lekamton,<sup>7</sup> Walter son of Walter,<sup>8</sup> Cecilia de Grenole widow,<sup>9</sup> who all made grants (without date) of lands in Poulton in Amounderness. Between the prior of Lancaster

<sup>1</sup> Brune is by some considered as referring to Brining, but Burn is much more likely to be the place.

<sup>2</sup> *Harl. MSS.*, 3764, fol. 1. [*Reg. Cart. Monast. B. Marie de Lanc.*]

<sup>3</sup> *Exchequer Augment. Mis.*, vol. i., No. 196 (no date).

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. iii., No. 202 (no date).

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. xi., No. 185 (no date).

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. xii., No. 157 (no date).

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. xiv., No. 229 (no date).

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. xvi., No. 301 (no date).

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. xix., No. 150 (no date).

and Sir Adam Banastre a dispute arose as to a right of way which in 4 Edw. I. (1276) resulted in an assault upon Ralph de Truno (the prior) and his attendants, by Sir Adam Banastre in person, aided by John Wenne, William de Thornteton, Richard le Demand, Richard de Brockholes, Geoffrey le Procuratoure, and Adam le Reeve. The prior and his friends were taken prisoners and led ignominiously to Thornton, where they were beaten and cast into prison. To enquire into this outrage a royal commission was issued appointing John Travers, William de Tatham, and John de Horneby inquisitors;<sup>1</sup> the result of this investigation has not been preserved, but by an indenture dated at Lancaster on the Thursday after the Epiphany, A.D. 1330, the question appears to have been settled, and an agreement come to that the prior and his tenants should for ever enjoy the right of passage with footmen, with horses, or with wains, on two sufficient roads through Sir Adam Banastre's land, viz., one from the "villis" of Poulton and Thornteton beyond Skippol, and thence to Singleton by a way leading to the ford of Aldewath in the water of Wyre, and the other from the "villis" of Pulton and Thornteton to the ford of Bulk in the same water.

The same agreement secured to the prior his right of collecting tithes in the district.<sup>2</sup> (See appendix A.) In 26 Edw. I. (1297-8), Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, and others held divers messuages in Pulton for the prior of Lancaster,<sup>3</sup> and 20 Edw. I. (1291-2), the abbot of Cockersand was cited to show by what warrant he claimed the judging of thieves and the holding of assize of bread and ale in Pulton, Carleton, Merton, and Laton.<sup>4</sup>

By deed dated 19 Edw. II. (1325-6), William the son of — Dalmeles and his wife make a grant of land and hereditaments in Little Pulton to Nicholas de Mariscoe.<sup>5</sup> One of the early

<sup>1</sup> *Regist. St. Maria, Lanc.*, fol. 70.

<sup>2</sup> *Exchequr. Augment. Mis.*, vol. v., No. 130.

<sup>3</sup> *Inq. post mort.*, No. 122.

<sup>4</sup> *Plac. de Quo. War.*, p. 379.

<sup>5</sup> Deeds in possession of W. Fitzherbert Brockholes, Esq.

landowners here took his name from the place. By charter without date, John the son of Waltheof de Pulton released to Henry son of Suani his right in the water flowing through the marsh between Pulton and Little Karlton, with license to make ponds and ditches wherever he pleased in Pulton near the said marsh, paying a rent of 1*d.* annually in the market at Lancaster. This was witnessed by William de Karlton, Paulinus de Gairstang, and Hugo de Winmerlie.<sup>1</sup>

Paulinus de Gairstang was living in 12 Hen. III. (1227-28).<sup>2</sup>

To various deeds without date, conveying lands in Carleton to the abbot of Stanlaw, amongst the witnesses were Adam de Pulton, James de Pulton, William de Pulton, John de Pulton, and Alan de Pulton, *clericus*.<sup>3</sup>

By another charter,<sup>4</sup> without date, Galfrid de Withringham granted land in "little" Pulton to Robert the son of Richard de Pulton,<sup>5</sup> and by inquisition, taken at Preston on Saturday, in the vigil of St. Matthew the Apostle, 27 Edward III. (23 Feb., 1352), it was found that Robert de Pulton held by knight-service of the priory of Lancaster, a messuage, 40 acres of arable land, 5 acres of meadow, 15 acres of pasture, in Pulton in Amounderness, rendering yearly to the said priory two shillings and ten pence halfpenny at the feast of Pentecost, which messuage and land were worth yearly, besides the said rents, twenty shillings; and that Robert de Pulton died on Monday before the feast of the B. M. the Virgin, 23 Edw. III. (7 Sept., 1349).<sup>6</sup> Amongst the *inquisitions* for Amounderness (for *inquis. nonarum*), in 1340-41, were Robert de Pulton and Roger de Pulton.

In the 6 Edw. III. (1332), parliament granted to the king the

<sup>1</sup> Dodsworth MSS.

<sup>2</sup> *History of Gairstang*, p. 162.

<sup>3</sup> *Coucher Book of Whalley*.

<sup>4</sup> *Exchec. Aug. Mis.*, vol. xiv., No. 288.

<sup>5</sup> Richard de Pulton appears as a witness to a deed relating to lands at Wedacre in Gairstang, *ante* 1247 (John Harland's MSS.), and a John, son of James de Pulton, witnessed a deed dated 17 May, 1350. (*Ibid.*)

<sup>6</sup> *Inq. post mort.*, No. 4.

"15ths" and "10ths," for which purpose assessors and taxors were appointed in every part of the country ; for Lancashire the chief taxers were Robert de Sherborne and John de Radcliffe, who were instructed to call together the best men of the various localities, and from them to select four or six out of every "vil," who, after due enquiry, were (with certain exceptions) to levy a tax on all goods in possession on St. Michael's day in the current year ; for the township of "Pulton" the following return of the sums to be contributed was made :

Witts. de Eccliston	-	-	-	-	-	vjs
Adam le Knyght	-	-	-	-	-	iijs ij <sup>d</sup>
Robtus de Pulton	-	-	-	-	-	ijs
Johns Page	-	-	-	-	-	ijs
Vicar de Pulton	-	-	-	-	-	ijs viij <sup>d</sup>
Rog. de Pulton	-	-	-	-	-	ijs vj <sup>d</sup>
Rog. Abell	-	-	-	-	-	ijs
Nichus de Pulton	-	-	-	-	-	xij <sup>d</sup>
Adam del Crosse	-	-	-	-	-	x <sup>d</sup>
Adam fil Simōn	-	-	-	-	-	x <sup>d</sup>

Adam the knight could be none other than Sir Adam Banastre, already referred to.

The Pulton family appeared to have increased their possessions until they ultimately held the entire manor. Nicholas de Pulton and Agnes his wife, by charter dated at Pulton on Monday after the nativity of St. John the Baptist, 9 Hen. IV. (25 June, 1408), granted to John Pierson, the son of Robert Pierson of Singleton, a plot of land, part of their manor of Pulton in Amounderness, containing half an acre of land, of which one rood was adjacent to the Milnefield, on the north side being the land of the prior of Lancaster, and on the south side that of Richard Shirburne, and abutting upon the way which leads from the bridge at Skippull to the . . . . of Pulton, and another half acre on which to build two mills and other buildings, for which a yearly rent of 3*d*. in silver was to be paid at the feast of St. Martin in the winter.

The witnesses to this deed were Robert de Browyk, William Ambrose and others.<sup>1</sup>

To meet the expense of the war with France, on 29 March, 1340, the parliament granted to the king the ninth fleece and the ninth sheaf for the next two years ; as well as the ninth of all the goods and chattels of boroughs and cities.

The return for the parish of Pulton was as follows :

Ancient tax, 50 marks ; new tax, 20 marks ; the ninths of sheaves, wool and lambs, 20 marks ; of which Horderne [Hardhorn] pays 46s. 8d., Merton 43s. 4d., Laton 22s. 3d., Carleton 30s., Pulton 23s. 4d., Thornton 2½ marks.

The glebe was worth 26s. 8d.; and there was stated to be in the same parish much land lying waste and uncultivated.<sup>2</sup>

In the reign of Hen. IV. a writ was addressed to the collectors (in Lancashire) of the aid granted to the king on the marriage of his eldest daughter, authorizing them to release the prior of Lancaster from the payment of £1 13s. 4d. for 20 librats of land in Pulton in Amounderness.<sup>3</sup>

By deed dated at Pulton, on the Sunday next after Easter 11 Hen. V. (1410), William de Hoheth of the parish of Pulton in Amounderness granted to Roger — all his lands in Magna Pulton ; the witnesses to the charter being Henry de Carleton, Nicholas le Butler, and James de Pekyryng.

The Butlers and the Harryntons were at this time large land-owners in various parts of the parish. Robert, the son of John Pereson of Pulton, by deed dated at Pulton, 5 May, 1433, granted to John, the son of Nicholas Botiler of Rawcliff, Robert Crone, and John de Hamelton, chaplains, all his lands and tenements in "Villa de Pulton," to hold in capite of the chief lords ; at the same time (by a second deed) he conveyed to the same people his goods and chattels, "as well living as dead," whilst by a third deed, dated at Pulton 28 September, 1446 (also between the same

<sup>1</sup> Dodsworth MSS., vol. liii. fol. 99.

<sup>2</sup> *Inquis. nonarum*, p. 37.

<sup>3</sup> Record office, *Chancery Rolls*, class xxv. A 7.

parties), the property is re-conveyed to the said John, the son of Robert Pereson, who again (on 3 October, 1446) conveys it to John, the son of Nicholas Boteler. By charter, dated 2 November, 1461, the afore-named John Boteler made a grant of the lands just referred to, to his son, Richard Boteler, the witnesses to this being Ricard Brown, vicar of Pulton, George de Carleton, George Singleton, and others.<sup>1</sup>

By charter, dated 20 March, 18 Hen. VI. (1440), — Botiller granted lands in Great Pulton to Thomas Haryngton, the son of James Haryngton, who, in 24 Hen. VI. (1446), had other lands in Great and Little Pulton conveyed to him by Richard Browne, vicar of Pulton.<sup>2</sup> (See chapter III.)

Sir James Harrington of Brixworth, in the county of Northampton, died 26 June, 1497, and was seized (*inter alia*) of lands in Pulton, Magna and Parva, by virtue of grants made to his ancestors,<sup>3</sup> and by his will he directed that his executors should take out of the profits of these and other lands, x marks, after the decease of his wife, for a priest to sing, in the parish church of Brixwell, and pray for his soul and the souls of his children.<sup>4</sup>

Between Sir James Harryngton and Richard Botiller, son and heir of Richard Botiller of Laton, a difference arose as to certain premises in Much Pulton and Little Pulton, which was referred to Thomas Botiller and Richard Langton, knight, who awarded that James Harryngton, Esq., was to pay to Richard Boteller £32, in the parish church of Pulton, at the feast of St. Andrew the Apostle, and £8 at the feast of St. Mary the Virgin, £8 at the purification of our Lady, and £8 at the feast of St. Margaret, and also that Richard Botiller should not renew any houses nor chambers standing on the ground which sometime belonged to Sir William Harryngton in Much and Little Pulton "in the ffylde," but should make a release to the said James Harryngton of such lands as his father had purchased from Sir William Harryngton.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Harland's MSS.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> *Inq. post mort.*, 14 Hen. VII. (Chet Soc., vol. xcix. p. 170.)

<sup>4</sup> Chet. Soc., vol. xcix. p. 168.

<sup>5</sup> Harland's MSS.

Another owner of the soil was John Fochour, whose son, Thomas Fochour, conveyed certain lands and tenements in Pulton Magna to John Blackeburn and John Crone, who, by deed dated at Pulton on Monday next after the Trinity, A.D. 1454, granted the same to Richard Browne, vicar of Pulton, and Henry Huntington, to hold the same for forty years, paying for the first ten years one red rose at the feast of the nativity of St. John the Baptist, if demanded, and for the next thirty years, *vjs* at the feast of St. Martin in the winter and Pentecost, in equal proportions.<sup>1</sup>

By charter, given at Pulton at the feast of St. Bartholomew the Apostle, 9 Edw. IV. (25 Aug., 1469), William Plesyngton granted to Richard Botiller all his lands and tenements in "Mekyll Pulton," to hold for ever.<sup>2</sup>

The abbot of Cockersand does not appear to have held much property in Poulton. The following are the names of tenants and rentals paid to the monastery in 1451 and 1501 :

BURSAR'S ROLL, 1451.<sup>3</sup>

Magna Carleton	{ Thomas Hulle, one tenement	44 <sup>s</sup> iv <sup>d</sup>	per ann.
	{ Thomas Hulle, a Wind Mill	ij <sup>s</sup>	"
Parva Carleton, George Carleton, tenement		vj <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>	"
Pulton, Roger Glender, 1 acre	- - -	x <sup>d</sup>	"
[Pulhouse ?] Richard Yelande, a tenement called			
Pulhous	- - - - -	vij <sup>s</sup>	"
Thornton	{ Thomas Hey, tenement	- -	xx <sup>d</sup> "
	{ Hugo de Ashton, tenement	-	ij <sup>d</sup> "

BURSAR'S ROLL, 1501.<sup>4</sup>

Magna Carleton	{ Thomas Hull, tenement	xxvj <sup>s</sup>	"
	{ William Bameburgh		
	{ [?Bamber], tenement	xv <sup>s</sup>	"
	{ Richard Schortered, land	iiij <sup>s</sup>	"

<sup>1</sup> Harland's MSS.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> MSS. belonging to Hornby chapel house.

<sup>4</sup> Printed in vol. lvii. Chet. Soc.



Parva Carleton	{	George Carleton, land	vj <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup> per ann.	
		William Hull and Thomas Hull,		
		a Wind Mill - - -	iijs <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>	„
Merton	{	The wife of William Sanderson	xvijs <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>	„
	{	William Galt, tenement - - -	ix <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>	„
[Pulhowse?] Robert Whytside, a tenement called				
Pulhowse	-	- - - - -	x <sup>d</sup>	„
[Magna Carleton]	{	John Anyon, a tenement		
		called Hayholme -	xiijs <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>	„
		William Hull, „ „	xiijs <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>	„
Pulton, Henry Taylor, a tenement called Abbot's				
Acres	-	- - - - -	xij <sup>d</sup>	„
Thornton, William Davy in Thornton, tenement iijs <sup>s</sup>				
				„

For subsidy granted 37 Hen. VIII. (1545-6), the following were taxed :<sup>1</sup>

Marton	{	William Butler in lands- - -	iiij <sup>s</sup>	
		John Hull in goods - - -	iiij <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>	
		The son of Edward Wytside - - -	iiij <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>	

The subsidy Roll for 23 Eliz. (1580-1),<sup>2</sup> furnishes few local names.

Marton, Magna and Parva. Robert Whiteheade in goods iiij<sup>li</sup>, rated at v<sup>s</sup>. Robert Bember in goods iiij<sup>li</sup> rated at v<sup>s</sup>. Robert Peerson being a presentor and not appearing before the Commissioners was fined xl<sup>s</sup>.

Poulton	{	William Hesketh, in goods iiij <sup>li</sup> rated at	v <sup>s</sup> .	
		James Tailor, „ „	vj <sup>li</sup> „	x <sup>s</sup> .

For the military muster in 1553, when the hundred of Amounderness was called upon to find eleven score men, this parish was represented by Carleton, Thornteton, and Hardhorne with Newtton eight men each, and Pulton three men.<sup>3</sup>

#### THORNTON.

In this township are Stana [Staynoe or Stainall],<sup>4</sup> Holmes,

<sup>1</sup> Record Office, 37 Hen. VIII., No. 130-159.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* 23 Eliz., No. 131-234.

<sup>3</sup> *Harl MSS.*, No. 1926.

<sup>4</sup> On the opposite side of the Wyre is another Stainall (in the parish of Kirkham ;)

and Trummall. The Domesday survey gives six carucates of land here as under cultivation, two of which were afterwards held by Margaret Wynequick, whose *inq. post mort.* was held 42 Hen. III. (1257-8).<sup>1</sup>

In 16 John (1214-15), Baldewinus Blundus paid twenty marks for a license to marry Margaret de Warewic [Wynequick], and to obtain her inheritance.<sup>2</sup> She afterwards married Michael de Carleton, who had to pay a fine of ten marks to recover the king's pardon for the offence committed by him in marrying a lady who was in the king's gift (her land being held of the king), and to marry whom Baldewinus Blundus had paid twenty marks;<sup>3</sup> the writ to the warden of the honor of Lancaster commanding him to deliver the inheritance into the hands of Michael de Carleton was dated 27 January, 5 Hen. III. (1221). In 20 Edw. I. (1292), an action was brought against Thomas de Singleton by the king, who sought to recover the manors of Singleton, Thornton, and Broughton — the defendant, however, proved to the jury that he held a part of Thornton, and that Thomas de Clifton and Caterina his wife held the third of two parts of twelve bovates of land there.<sup>4</sup> The *Testa de Nevill* gives the name of Matilda de Thorenton, who was unmarried and in the king's gift, and whose lands were worth 20s. For the lay subsidy in 1332, the following were taxed for this township :

Almar' de Thorneton	-	-	-	xvj <sup>d</sup> ob. q <sup>r</sup>
Wiflms de Suon	-	-	-	xv <sup>d</sup> ob.
Johns de Staynoll-	-	-	-	ij <sup>s</sup> v <sup>d</sup> q <sup>r</sup> .
Thomas fil' Richard	-	-	-	iiij <sup>s</sup> ij <sup>d</sup>
Thomas de Thorneton	-	-	-	iiiij <sup>s</sup>
Batty de Brun	-	-	-	iiij <sup>s</sup> ij <sup>d</sup>

the name occurs in many early deeds (see *Coucher Book of Whalley*), which may refer to either of these places.

<sup>1</sup> Record office, *Inq. post mort.*, No. 11.

<sup>2</sup> *Rot. Lit. Claus.*, 16 John, M 7. (Record office.)

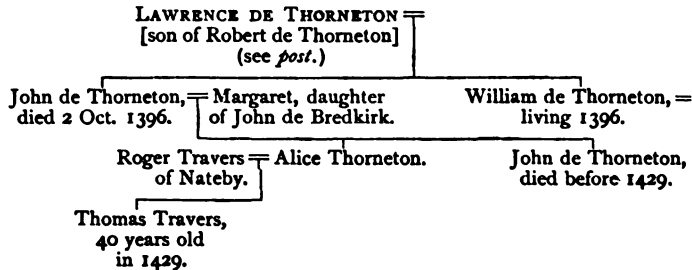
<sup>3</sup> *Rot. Finium*, 5 Hen. III., M 8.

<sup>4</sup> *Plac. de Quo. War.*, Edw. I., Lanc. Rol., 13 d.

Ričus de Ellele	-	-	-	-	xv <sup>d</sup>
Wiłłms Alotessone	-	-	-	-	xiiij <sup>d</sup>
Wiłłms Proudfof	-	-	-	-	xiiij <sup>d</sup>
Ričus the son of Roger	-	-	-	-	xiiij <sup>d</sup>
Johns the son of John de Heton	-	-	-	-	xiiij <sup>d</sup>

Thomas, the son of Lawrence Travers of Nateby, gave to his son John and Alice Plesington, as a marriage settlement, a wind mill and certain lands in Thornton. The marriage took place May, 1349. They had issue a son Roger, who afterwards married a Thornton. (See below.)

From an *ing. post mort.*,<sup>1</sup> taken at Preston, 2 August, 1429, it appears that William de Clayton, vicar of Pulton, and Ralph de Penwortham, conveyed to John de Thornteton and Margaret his wife, half the manor of Thornteton, which was held of the duke of Lancaster by service, and an annual rent of 8s. John de Thornteton died without male issue, and his next heir was his grandson, Thomas Travers; but it appears that William de Thornteton (brother of John) held possession of the half of the manor, and probably retained it, as a William de Thornteton (possibly his son) died seized of it on 24 June, 1429. The *ing. post mort.* of William de Thornteton,<sup>2</sup> and the one first named, furnish the following pedigrees.

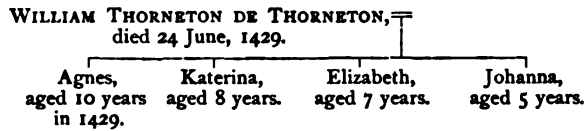


Roger Travers and Alice Thornton were married about the year 1379, and had issue Thomas Travers, who was coroner for Lancashire, 7 Hen. V. or VI.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Chet. Soc., vol. xcix. p. 24.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 26.

<sup>3</sup> *Harl. MSS.*, 2112, fol. 146.



The late Mr. W. Langton, in a note to *Townley's Abstracts of Lancashire Inquisitions*,<sup>1</sup> writes, "A curious divorce case is on record between John de Townley and Isabell his wife, daughter of Nicholas Butler of Rawcliff. It was a childless marriage, and hence probably the desire for a divorce. Twenty-four years prior to the suit, John de Towneley, then a minor, had married Isabella at the door of the church of St. Michael-upon-Wyre, she being also of tender years. The plea for the dissolution of the marriage was, that before that time Isabella had contracted, *per verba in presenti*, in her father's orchard, with John de Thorneton, two witnesses declaring that they had heard the mutual engagement made to take each other as husband and wife until death—thereto pledging their faith. This must have been mere child's play. At the date of the divorce, evidence was given that John de Thorneton was dead four years before that time, and that he was buried in the chantry of the parish church of Poulton in the Fylde. This John de Thorneton was, in all probability, the son of the John named in the inquisition of 1396, who had died before that date. The contract between Richard Towneley and Nicholas Butler for the marriage of John and Isabella, their children, is dated 22 August, 1418."

Two surveys of Lancashire, taken in the early part of the 14th century, have been printed, but to neither of them can be assigned an exact date, the "Birch Feodary,"<sup>2</sup> which Mr. Beaumont says, (and no doubt correctly,) is an inquisition on death of Earl Thomas taken in 1322.<sup>3</sup>

This Inquisition sets forth that "Adam the son of William Banester held half the manor of Thornton by service and payment of xxij<sup>s</sup> vjd, viz., for Thornton viij<sup>s</sup>, and for the half of

<sup>1</sup> Chet. Soc., vol. xcix. p. 25.

<sup>2</sup> Gregson's *Portfolio*, p. 333.

<sup>3</sup> *Annals of Warrington*, p. 146.

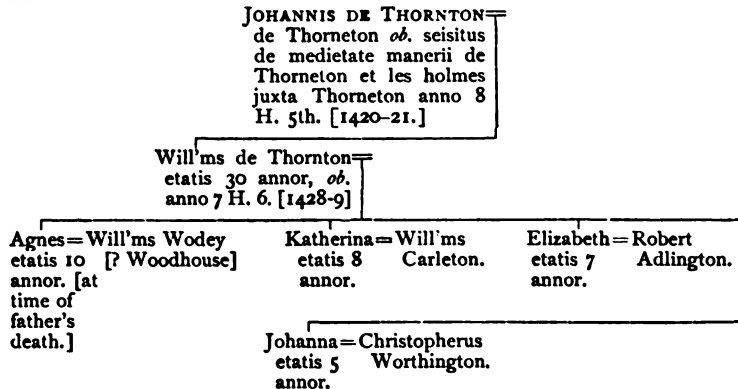
Stanolf, a part of the said manor, iiij<sup>s</sup> vjd, for Brome [Bourne] x<sup>s</sup> at the feast of the Annunciation and Michaelmas. The other half of the manor was held by Lawrence, the son of Robert de Thornton by homage and service, and paying xij<sup>s</sup> per annum."

The survey of 1320-46 gives the following account :

John de Staynolfe held 4 oxgangs of land paying iv<sup>s</sup> vjd; Roger de Northcrosse, a messuage and an oxgang of land, 7½<sup>d</sup>; Adam the knight, five acres, 4<sup>d</sup>; Thomas, son of Robert Staynolfe, a messuage, an oxgang of land, 7½<sup>d</sup>; William Laurence, a fourth part of an oxgang, 16<sup>d</sup>; Thomas Travers, a fourth part of an oxgang of land, 16<sup>d</sup>; John Botiller, a fourth part of an oxgang of land, [16<sup>d</sup>?]; and Richard Doggeson, five acres of land, 6<sup>d</sup>; they held in all one carve of land in Thornton, in a place called Staynolfe, in drengage, paying yearly five shillings at the Annunciation and Michaelmas. It was the custom for the drenches<sup>1</sup> when mowing to have food and puture for the children of the lord and their nurse, and for the horses and dogs of the lord.

Thomas Banastre held a carve of land; John, son of Lawrence de Thornton, held one carve in Thornton and Staynolfe, late of Robert Wyndewhike, in thanage, paying yearly at the four terms, 13<sup>s</sup> relief and suit to the county and wapentake.

At the Visitation of St. George, 1613, the following pedigree was entered :



<sup>1</sup> Drenches were tenants holding their land by "drengage."

As late as the time of Philip and Mary one Richard Thornton, gentleman, died [20 Jan., 1556] seized of two messuages and 40 acres of land in Becanshaw and Hesketh, and a messuage and lands in Holmes (in Thornton), which he held of the Earl of Derby in free socage, which was worth 15s. a year. His son and heir was George Thornton, who was then of full age.<sup>1</sup>

Lord Derby in 1521<sup>2</sup> held the manor, or reputed manor, of Thorneton. In the next century the Allens and the Fleetwoods were large landowners here, of whom hereafter. Thornton marsh was enclosed by Act of Parliament 39 Geo. III.

[Rossall Hall, Bourne Hall, and Thornton Hall, see chapter VI.]

#### CARLETON (GREAT AND LITTLE).

The Carlentium of Domesday had four carucates in cultivation, which were held in the reign of Henry II. by Gilbert Fitz Reinfred.<sup>3</sup> By charter without date (but made early in 13th century) Henry de Quitnyngton gave to the abbey of Stanlaw three acres of land in the "villa de parva Carleton," which were formerly in the tenure of William de Pulton, Robert the ditcher, and Matilda (a widow), one part of which was situate in the south part of the "ville," the other part being near the lands belonging to "Kokersand" abbey. The witnesses to this were Dominus William Pincerna, William de Carleton, William de Syngleton, Alan his son, Richard de Thorneton, William de Merton, Amicus de Lekamton, and others.<sup>4</sup> William Pincerna (otherwise William le Boteler) died in 1233. About the same date Henry de Carleton, son of Henry, gave to Stanlawe a right of way between his lands in Little Carleton and Steyninges, beginning at the division between Little Laton, and descending to the footpath between Stainings and Little Carleton, along which road the monastery

<sup>1</sup> Record Office, *Duchy Records*, x. 42.

<sup>2</sup> *Inq. post mort.*, v. 68, 13 Hen. VIII.

<sup>3</sup> *Lib. Nigr. Scac.*, p. 340.

<sup>4</sup> *Coucher Book of Whalley*, p. 445. This grant was confirmed to the monastery of Whalley by Letters Patent in 1328.

was to make a ditch seven feet wide and four feet deep.<sup>1</sup> The same donor granted to the monastery a meadow called Elrekar, in Little Carleton, beginning at the ditch of "Cecilie," in Little Laton, extending eastwards towards "le Blakelache" and on the west to "le Stokynbridge," saving to himself and his heirs the use of water for his mill.<sup>2</sup>

Cecilia de Laton gave about this time to the same religious house her right in the marsh between Mattinsmure and the boundary of Little Carleton.<sup>3</sup>

By deed dated 11 Edward I. (1282-3) Henry de Parva Carleton and Amabillam his wife granted lands here to Richard le Botiller.<sup>4</sup> According to the *Testa de Nevill*, Roger Gernet held the 24th and the 48th part of a knight's fee in Parva Karlton; Robert de Stockport had a like holding in Magna Karlton.<sup>5</sup>

The manor of Carleton was held by the Carleton family for several centuries, and then passed to the Singletons, and early in the 18th century came into the possession of the Sherburnes of Stoneyhurst, and in 1717 Sir Richard Sherburne left it by will to his daughter and heiress Maria Winifreda Francisca, the duchess of Norfolk; in 1745 it formed part of the estates which the duchess bequeathed to her cousin Edward Weld of Lulworth Castle, Dorsetshire, Esq., whose descendant, Edward Joseph Weld, sold the inheritance to various small proprietors.

The subsidy roll of 1332 gives the following inhabitants of Carleton, viz.:

Johnes fit. Thom-	-	-	-	-	iiij <sup>s</sup>
Nichus de Haiholm <sup>6</sup>	-	-	-	-	ij <sup>s</sup>
Robtus Capto	-	-	-	-	ij <sup>s</sup> vjd
Johnes Tanner	-	-	-	-	xvjd
Johnes fit Jakes	-	-	-	-	xvjd
Godrich de Carleton	-	-	-	-	xiiij <sup>d</sup>
Ričus fabř	-	-	-	-	xij <sup>d</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Coucher Book of Whalley*, p. 443.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 444.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 422.

<sup>4</sup> *Dodsworth MSS.*, 144, 82.

<sup>5</sup> *Fol.* 398.

<sup>6</sup> Haiholme in Magna Carleton occurs in a deed dated 1476.

Thomas fil Nicki	-	-	-	-	xvii <sup>d</sup>
Ričus Coderussti	-	-	-	-	xv <sup>d</sup>
Adam del halle	-	-	-	-	ij <sup>d</sup>
Ričus Molend	-	-	-	-	xij <sup>d</sup>
Henř le Daa	-	-	-	-	xij <sup>d</sup>

There was anciently a manorial court held in Carleton. In 1697 Sir Nicholas Sherburne in granting lands for a school (see *post*) reserved to himself the right to hold the court in the schoolhouse; a century later S. Sparrow, the agent of the Sherburne estates, in a letter dated 13 January, 1798, states that "a plan of Carleton and some other papers, being Carleton court verdicts, &c., were delivered to John Gaultier and were never returned," subsequently John Gaultier's house was destroyed by fire, after which the agent writes: "I have lately seen a person who says he was present at the fire of John Gaultier's house, who assured me that all the papers were saved, John Gaultier often assured me that he never received them back from the commissioners, so it is possible they may be in the possession of Mr. George Wright of Hornby castle, who was one of the commissioners at the finish of the enclosure of Thornton marsh."<sup>1</sup>

There are people still living who remember the court being held at a beerhouse called "The Hole in the Wall," when twelve jurymen were appointed, together with other officers, whose duty it was to inspect hedges, ditches, watercourses, &c., &c.; the court was afterwards held at the Weld Arms Inn. When the estate was sold the manorial rights were sold with Norcross Farm, but the holding of a court had previously fallen into disuse. There are people now alive who can remember the "Cuckstool" standing in Great Carleton. (Carleton family and Carleton Hall, see chapter VI.)

#### GREAT AND LITTLE MARTON.

Meretun with its six carucates of land is named in the Domesday book. In 9 John (1207-8) the sheriff of the county was by

<sup>1</sup> *MS.* in possession of John Weld, Esq.



writ ordered to give to Matilda, formerly the wife of Theobald Walter, her third of the land in *Mereton* which Theobald held by payment of 12s. and one hawk annually.<sup>1</sup>

The name of William de Merton appears as a juror in 37 Hen. III. (1252-3).<sup>2</sup>

The *Coucher Book of Whalley* contains a record of the following grants to the abbey of Stanlawe, all of which are without date, but which internal evidence proves to have been made about the year 1272 :

William, the lord of Merton, granted half a bovate of land in Great Merton, which John Wyth formerly held, with a house next to that of Richard Russell, also two acres of land in the same "vil," one, a part of which is in the west part of Suterdale, and the other part in the Hallstude, the rest being near Ketelishworth, towards Laton ; also a "selione"<sup>3</sup> of land, "super le Falyes," extending from east to west, and two other "seliones," "super le Longelandes." Amongst the witnesses to this charter are Michel de Merton, Adam de Pulton, and Henry de Karleton.

William de Merton gave a house and garden in the "villa" of Merton. Richard, the son of Henry de Merton, and Margerie, his wife, granted half a "selione" of land in the "campo de Merton," which was situate between the land of William de Merton and that of Americus, the son of Symon de Thorneton, in Ketelesholmwathwra ; the witnesses to this were William de Merton, Richard his brother, Amaricus de Lekampton, Henry de Carleton, Richard the clerk. Richard, the son of William de Merton, confirmed the grant of his father of half a bovate of land, with a house and two acres of land, with right of pasture for twenty cows and a bull. Amongst the witnesses are Dominus de Cancefeld, then sheriff,<sup>4</sup> and Dominus Henry de Lee.

Gilbert de Lancastria, clerk, relinquished his life interest in a

<sup>1</sup> *Rot. Liter. Clausar.* 9 John, M. 16.

<sup>2</sup> *Dodsworth MSS.*, 87, 2.

<sup>3</sup> Selione = a measure of land equal to about one-fifth of an acre.

<sup>4</sup> He was sheriff in 1272.

half bovat of land in Merton, for which he had paid a rental of 4s. per annum to the monastery; Gilbert de Clifton, sheriff of Lancashire, being amongst the witnesses, fixes the date as either 1282, 1286, 1287, or 1289.

About the same time as the last named grants, William de Merton, son of Adam, son of Matthew, gave to the abbot of Whalley a "selione" of land in Magna Merton.<sup>1</sup>

In 11 Edw. II. (1282-3), Micheal de Merton was witness to a grant of land. (See p. 21.)

Theobald le Botiler, in 33 Hen. III. (1248-9), died seized of Merton-cum-Linholme,<sup>2</sup> and in 1285, another of the same name died, when the jury returned that he held of the king, in *capite*, twenty-four bovates of land in Merton, and that Theobald was his son and heir.<sup>3</sup>

By deed without date (but of the year 1277), Richard le Botiller granted to Richard, his son, to hold by homage and service, all his lands in Merton which he had received from William de Merton, and Richard his son. This was witnessed by William le Boteller de "Werington," Henry his son, Henry de Lee, sheriff of Lancashire, Walter Carlton, John de Thorneton, and Henry de Carlton.

The *Testa de Nevill* describes "Moreton" as six carucates, three of which were held by the king for the heirs of Theobald Walter [le Boteller], then in his custody, and three carucates held by Adam de Merton by knight-service.<sup>4</sup>

Isabella, the daughter of Richard le Boteler of Merton, married her cousin, Henry le Boteler, and after the death of her husband, by charter of 31 October, 33 Edw. I. (1305), ordered John de Steynol, her tenant, to pay vij<sup>s</sup> out of the rent of her lands in Magna Merton to father Humphrey, one of the monks of Whalley; failing to pay, he was to forfeit ij<sup>s</sup> to Norman le Boteler.<sup>5</sup>

In 1328, she made a lease of lands in Merton and Warbreke to Richard le Boteler.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Dodsworth MSS., 131, 35.

<sup>2</sup> Dodsworth MSS., 53, 99.

<sup>3</sup> Whalley Coucher Book, p. 453.

<sup>4</sup> *Inq. post mort.*, Record office, No. 49.

<sup>5</sup> Folio 403.

<sup>6</sup> *Annals of Warrington*, p. 131.

According to the survey of 1320-44,<sup>1</sup> William Botiller held two parts, and Nicholas Botiller a third part of a knight's-fee in Great Merton, paying yearly, at the nativity of St. John the Baptist, for castleward, three shillings, and at Michaelmas five shillings. On 24 February, Richard le Boteler died, and amongst his possessions was the manor of Great Merton.<sup>2</sup> This Richard was a younger son of William le Boteler's brother Richard, the first lord of Houstrawcliff,<sup>3</sup> he lost his life and estate by following the fortunes of Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, who was himself beheaded before the castle of Pontefract on 22 March, 1322.

It does not, however, appear that the manor was alienated from the family, as on 26 May, 1340, William le Boteller, in order to make a settlement of his estates, granted to Hugh Bachelor the Boteler trustee, by a fine (*inter alia*), the manor of Great Merton to William le Boteler and Elizabeth his wife for life, with remainder to Richard le Boteler and Joanna his wife and their heirs, with remainder to John le Boteler, the said Richard's brother.<sup>4</sup> In 1359 Sir John Boteller, son of Sir William Boteller, released certain lands in Great Merton.<sup>5</sup> John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster (who was the chief lord under whom many of the Lancashire landowners held their estates) in 1378 issued a summons to levy a rate to make Henry of Bolinbroke a knight; the receiver reported that in Amounderness Sir William le Boteler, knight, and Nicholas Boteller held Magna Merton as a third of a knight's fee, at a rental of 5s. a year.<sup>6</sup>

Sir William Boteller, after an eventful life (for an account of which see *Annals of Warrington*, p. 193 *et seq.*) died on 17 March, 1380, aged 71, his son and heir Sir John Boteller being then aged 52.<sup>7</sup> Great Marler continued in the holding of this family until the time of Henry VIII., when it formed part of the estate of Sir Thomas Boteler, who died at Bewsey on the 27 April, 1522,<sup>8</sup> and

<sup>1</sup> Chet. Soc., vol. lxxiv. p. 59.

<sup>2</sup> *Inq. post mort.*, N 59.

<sup>3</sup> *Annals of Warrington*, p. 91.

<sup>4</sup> Duchy Records, see *Annals of Warrington*, p. 172.

<sup>5</sup> Bold Deeds, *Ibid.*, p. 184.

<sup>6</sup> Dodsworth MSS., *Ibid.*, p. 192.

<sup>7</sup> *Inq. post mort.*

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, Record office, 14 Hen. VIII., vi. 13.

it was sold by his son and heir to William Fleetwood of Elinge, in the county of Middlesex, Esq., who conveyed it to Edmund Fleetwood<sup>1</sup> of Rossall, whose descendant, Sir Paul Fleetwood, by deed dated 2 March, 1653, granted it to certain trustees for the use of his son Richard Fleetwood, and for the purposes of his will,<sup>2</sup> and in Nov. 1841, it was sold by Sir P. H. Fleetwood, Bart., to Thomas Clifton, Esq. A part of Little Marten, in 4 Edw. III. (1330), was held by William de Cokerham in trust for the abbot and convent of Furness,<sup>3</sup> and about the same date James, son of Edmund le Boteller, Earl of Ormond, held three carves of land here.<sup>4</sup>

At the dissolution of the monasteries, the land held in Merton by the abbot and convent of Furness became forfeited to the crown, and was granted to the Holcroft family, and subsequently passed to Sir Richard Molyneux, who, 10 March, 1612, conveyed the same to Cuthbert Clifton, Esq.,<sup>5</sup> whose descendant is the present owner.

SUBSIDY ROLL, A.D. 1332.

Merton.

Thomas le Molneux	-	-	-	-	ij <sup>s</sup>
Robtus de Marisco	-	-	-	-	ij <sup>s</sup> j <sup>d</sup> ob.
Nich fil Thom	-	-	-	-	xij <sup>d</sup>
Thomas Russell	-	-	-	-	iiiij <sup>s</sup>
Robtus Rudde	-	-	-	-	xij <sup>d</sup>
Adam Clico	-	-	-	-	iiiij <sup>s</sup>
Ričus de Hestholme	-	-	-	-	v <sup>s</sup> x <sup>d</sup>
Anabill ux' Willi	-	-	-	-	iiij <sup>s</sup>
Johes de Merton	-	-	-	-	iiij <sup>s</sup> j <sup>d</sup> ob.
Robtus fil Robte	-	-	-	-	ij <sup>s</sup> vij <sup>d</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Pleadings*, Record office, roll 153, 42 Eliz.

<sup>2</sup> Original deed.

<sup>3</sup> *Inq. post mort.*, 4 Edw. III., N 100.

<sup>4</sup> Lancashire Survey, Chet. Soc., vol. lxxiv. p. 55, and Lansdowne MSS., 559, fol. 36.

<sup>5</sup> Title deeds, Clifton estate office.

## MARTON MERE.

In the 13th century, Theobald Walter [le Boteller] granted to the abbots of Stanlawe the right to make a pool out of Marton mere or marsh [maram meam de Merton], and to take the water to their mill at Staining, with a proviso that the fish in the said mere were not to be injured ;<sup>1</sup> a little later the Earl of Ormond (James, son of Edward le Boteller), held the fishery called Merton mere, paying yearly for it at Michaelmas ten shillings and one soar hawk.<sup>2</sup>

Baines (*History of Lancashire*) says, that the right of fishing here, in the time of Edw. III., formed the subject of litigation, but for this he quotes no authority. In the reign of Hen. VIII., Thomas Hesketh appeared in the Duchy court as plaintiff, and Richard Banester as defendant, the matter in dispute being fishing in "Marton Myre."<sup>3</sup> John Singleton of Staining died 2 August, 1589, seized (*inter alia*) with the fishing of "Marton Mare."<sup>4</sup>

Marton Mere was anciently six miles long, and at least a mile and a half wide ; it is marked conspicuously on all the old Lancashire maps as Marton Mere and Marton Moss.

Marton formerly consisted of four hamlets, viz., Great and Little Marton, the Fold, and the Peel. Near to the latter, at a place called Hallstede [in 1272 called Hallstude, see p. 20], vestiges of a manor house were discovered, with the remains of a moat and drawbridge, and here were dug up two or three gold rings. Hallstedes was the seat of the Holcrofts of Marton, afterwards of Tyldesley.<sup>5</sup>

Tradition says that the stream issuing from Marton Mere formerly turned the wheel of a water mill near to the village of Great Marton. The reduction of this great sheet of water to its

<sup>1</sup> *Coucher Book of Whalley*, p. 424.

<sup>2</sup> Lancashire Survey, Chet. Soc., vol. lxxiv. p. 55.

<sup>3</sup> Record office, 6 Hen. VIII., n. d.

<sup>4</sup> *Inq. post mort.*

<sup>5</sup> Dodsworth MSS., c. xlii. p. 161.

present insignificant size, is due to the natural accumulation of sediment and to drainage.

The following agreement, entered into in 1731, furnishes evidence as to the state of the Mere at that time.

Whereas there is a great lake or standing poole or water, called Marton Mear, adjoyning to Staineing, Weeton, Marton, and Layton, in the county of Lancaster, which for want of the water courses being duely sunk and cleansed, on a sudden access of rain is very subject to overflow a great quantity of the lands and grounds adjoyning, not only to the said Mear but also to the watercourse which ought to draine and carry away the water therefrom, which goes or runs from the north end of the said Mear eastwards, and so in its circuit and several turnings, thro Weeton-cum-Preese, Hardhorn-cum-Newton, and Singleton to Skippoole, and thence to the river Wyer, and if duely sunk, widned, and cleansed, would carry of a great weight of water from the said Meer and thereby keep the lands adjoyning to it and to the said water course dry and free from overflowing, which Edward Jolly of Methop, in the said county, yeoman, is willing and doth hereby undertake to doe and performe. Now we, whose names are subscribed, being owners of land lying contiguous and adjoyning to the said Meer, and being willing and desirous to promote the said worke, doe hereby covenant, agree, and promise, for our selves, our Executors, Administrators, and Assigns severally, and not one for another, nor for the Executors or Administrators of one another, to and with the said Edward Jolly, his Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, that we will severally on his the said Edward Jolly's cleansing, widening, and sinking the said watercourse, or causeing the same to be done soe as to carry of a yard in height or depth of the said Meer, contribute and pay unto the said Edward Jolly, his Executors, Administrators, or Assigns, the severall and respective sums of money to each of our names adjoyned, when, and as soon as the said work shall be performed, and the said Edward Jolly, for himselfe, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, doth hereby covenant and agree, to and with the said subscribers or parties hereto their Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, that he the said Edward Jolly, his Executors, Administrators, or Assigns, shall and will cleanse, widen, and sink, the said water-course, soe as to carry of such weight or depth of water therefrom, as afore mentioned within the space of three months, now next ensuing else the agreement and every-

thing therein contained to be null and void. As witness the hands and seals of the said parties the twenty-first day of May, 1731.

WM. HORNBY.  
ROBT. WHITESIDE, SEN.  
GEORGE COWBERN.  
JOHN WALSH.  
RICHARD SANDERSON.  
THOMAS BAMBER.

Scaled, signed, and delivered, it being first agreed that each of the several owners of land above-mentioned, shall and will contribute and pay to the said Edward Jolly, rateably and proportionably, according to the breadth of each ones Estate, in the presence of or by William Hornby, Robt. Whiteside eldest, George Cowbern, John Walsh, Richard Sander-son, Thomas Bamber.

WM. HIGGINSON.

WILLIAM JOLLY.

Scaled, signed, and delivered by John Hull, of Marton-in-the-Fylde.

[Witnesses]

JOHN HULL.

MARGERY HOULDIN.

HENRY WHITESIDE.

The work appears to have gone on slowly, as ten years later another agreement was made, the wording of which was as follows:

By an order from a Court of Sewers to us directed, whose names are hereunto subscribed, we are ordered to widen the ditch running from Martin Mear to Mythop or Presse Carr, to two yards and a half at the bottom of the said ditch. Now, in order to get this done, we agree that William Jolly shall get workmen and see it done equal on all sides at the least expence he can, and we do hereby promise to repay him the charge of widening according to each of our proportions, considering the length of the ditch lying to the land we each of us have, and to allow him each day he is employed in overseeing the workmen as much as one of the workmen's wages. As witness our hands, the 21st July, 1741.

JAMES JOLLY.  
SETH JOLLEY.  
HENREY JOLLEY.  
RICHD. DICKSON.  
WILLIAM FAYLE.  
EDMUND ROE.

In a letter addressed to "Mr. Porter," and dated "Kirkham, Sept. 21st, 1780," the writer says, "I called at Mythop on my return from Blackpool, and in consequence of our conversation, John Jolley agreed to join in bottoming the water course. The workmen began the morning after, and such a fall is obtained that if the landowners in Marton perform their part the Moss will be effectually drained and every complaint from that quarter totally redressed."

During the work of draining, large quantities of the trunks of oak and yew trees were found imbedded in the soil, all of which were in a slanting position towards the sea, and some of them bore evidence of having, at some far distant time, been cut down.

#### HARDHORN-WITH-NEWTON.

This township, as at present constituted, comprises the hamlets of Hardhorn-with-Newton and Staining; of these three, only the latter is mentioned in Domesday book, six carucates being there assigned to "Staininghe," and by this name for several centuries afterwards the township was recognized. Bishop Gastrell divides Staining into two hamlets, Hardhorn and Newton.

The *Coucher Book of Whalley* contains many very early deeds referring to Staining. The following three are without date, but may be accepted as being of the 12th or 13th century:

An agreement between the priory of Norton in Cheshire and the monastery of Stanlawe, whereby the tythes of Steyninges were assigned to the latter.

A charter by which John de Lascy, constable of Chester, gives to the abbot and monks of Stanlawe his "ville de Steyninges" with all its appurtenances, in the "vill," in the field, in the ways and footpaths, in meadows, pastures, in waters and in mills. The monks to pay the accustomed services to the king.

A charter whereby Cecilia de Laton [widow of Gilbert] conceded to the abbey of Stanlawe all her marsh between the ditch and certain lands in Steyninges, which ditch extended from the great mere to Mattaynsmure, and the boundary between Stayninges and little Laton.



Alexander de Stanford, rector of half the church of Pulton, wishful to spare "Dominus Karolus," the abbot of Stanlawe, his labours and trouble, conceded the right to have an oratory in the chantry of the grange of Steyning, situate within the parish of Pulton, saving to the mother church the tithes and oblations, it being agreed, that if any injury be done to the church of Pulton, that then the service in the oratory be discontinued. This charter must have been executed about the year 1241, as another charter, referring to the same transaction, names Galfridus and Gernerus priors of Lancaster; the former held the office in 1241, the latter in 1249. This charter *not* being in the *Coucher Book of Whalley*, is printed in the appendix to this volume.

By charter, dated feast of Pentecost, A.D. 1234, the abbot of St. Mary's of Lancaster confirmed the tithes of Steyninges and Hordern to the priory of Stanlawe, subject to the payment of an annual rent of five silver marks.

At the Lancaster assizes, 20 October, 1246, Adam, Richard, William, and Roger, sons of the parson of Blackburn, were presented for burning the abbot of Stanlawe's grange at Staininges; they were all exiled and outlawed. As they had no chattels, Matilda, their mother (who was presented, as well as the chief landowners about Blackburn) made a fine of sixty marks for herself and sons.<sup>1</sup> At the same time, Gilbert, son of Matheis of Samlesbury, and others, were presented for receiving the burners of Staininges grange. Bernard de Schamelesbiry, and Richard his brother, were also presented for the same offence, and were fined iiij marks.

By charter, dated the translation of St. Martin [4 July], 1251, William, the abbot of Lancaster, confirmed to the abbot of Stanlawe all his tithes of the third part of the sheaves in the grange of Steyninges, at a yearly rent of 100 shillings.

William de Reio, prior of Lancaster, confirmed to Stanlawe the tithes of sheaves in Steyninges and Hordern for an annual rent of x marks of silver, reserving to the priory the oblations of Pulton church. William de Reio was prior of St. Mary's, Lancaster, A.D. 1252.

<sup>1</sup> Assize Lanc., 30 Hen. III., M. 21.

By deed dated at Sees, 9 July, 1260, John, abbot of St. Martin of Sees, confirmed to the priory of Stanlawe the tithes of sheaves of Steyninges.

Cecilia de Laton also granted half her marsh between Mat-tainsmure and Little Karleton.

An agreement between the abbot of Stanlawe and William le Boteller, whereby the former conceded to the latter the marsh beyond the ditch towards Great Laton, and William le Boteller conceded to the abbot all the marsh between the said ditch and the land of Steyninges, the said ditch to remain the division between Steyninge and Great Laton, and if any fish were taken therein they were to be divided between the two contracting parties. Amongst the witnesses to this was Henry de Lee, who was sheriff of Lancashire in 1277.

Certain disputes having arisen between the abbot and convent of Whalley (formerly of Stanlawe) and the priory of St. Mary of Lancaster, the matter was referred to Robert de Pikeryng, an official of the court of York; this agreement was dated at York 7 November, 1298. Amongst the questions at issue was the right to tithes of sheaves grown upon lands in Steyninges, in Hordern, and in Newton, which was ultimately, in 1299, confirmed to the monastery of Whalley, subject to certain rent charges.

The "Survey of Lancashire" (1320-46) and the so-called Feodary, printed by Gregson, both show that early in the 14th century the abbot of Whalley held five carves of land in Hordorne and Newton and Stayninge for half a knight's fee, paying five shillings yearly, at the nativity of St. John Baptist, for castleward of Lancaster, and suit to the wapentake and county. In the *Inquis. Nonarum* (see p. 9) Hordorne is named, but Staining is not.

History is almost silent concerning the history of this township for the next two centuries, but the abbots of Whalley no doubt continued to be the chief owners of the soil. After the dissolution of the monasteries, Staining Grange was granted to Sir Thomas Holt<sup>1</sup> of Grizzlehurst, and afterwards, with much of the land in

<sup>1</sup> Grizzlehurst notes, *History of Stydd Chapel*, p. 6.

Hardhorn and Newton, passed to the Singleton family, who retained it for several generations. (*Staining Hall and Toderstaff Hall*, see chapter vi.)

During the Civil Wars, Poulton, like most of the other parishes in the Fylde, contributed its quota to both the Cavaliers and the Roundheads, and though not the scene of any serious engagement, it was more than once disturbed from its usual peace and quietness. Amongst the Royalists were Captain Singleton of Staining hall, and Captain Bamber of the Moor; these were headed by Alexander Rigby of Layton. On the other side were captains Richard Davis of Newton, and Rowland Anyon of Thorneton, who raised companies in their respective districts, and were under the command of Colonel Alexander Rigby of Goosnargh.<sup>1</sup>

On the 4 March, 1642-3, the whole district was thrown into great excitement by the appearance of a large Spanish ship "of a great Burden such a one as was never landed in Wyre Watter in any man's memory then alive," and which, riding at anchor in the shallow water near Rossall, for several days continued to discharge "Ordenance" without venturing nearer the shore; on a pilot going out, it was found to be laden with ammunition, intended for the use of the parliamentary forces in Lancashire, "but having been long tossed upon the Seas the men were growne most of them especially the meaner sort very feeble and weak," and their firing of guns was intended for a signal for assistance. The ship was therefore seized by the Royalists and brought into the mouth of the Wyre, and her crew landed on the Rossall side. Whereupon the Earl of Derby came across the Ribble with a troop of horse, and staying the night at Lytham hall, the next day marched to Rossall, and finding in or about the ship Colonel George Dodding of Conishead priory, and Mr. Townson of Lancaster, friends of the parliament, he took them prisoners, and ordered that the ship should be burnt; the Spanish

<sup>1</sup> *Discourse of the Warr in Lanc.*, Chet. Soc., vol. lxii. pp. 26, 42. In this work the name of Rowland Anyon is given as "Amon."

crew he allowed to go free. The ship was accordingly burnt, the earl not judging it politic to attempt to secure the guns (of which there were several of brass), some of which afterwards were taken away by the parliamentary commander.

Whilst the Earl of Derby was marching towards Rossall, Major Sparrow (or serjeant-major), with four companies of foot, was despatched from Preston with the same object in view, and having quartered his men for the night at Poulton and Singleton, the next day mustered at Poulton, and sending out scouts, he discovered that the earl was on Layton Hawes, and not liking to engage with his horsemen, he retreated across the Wyre and advanced to where the ship was; only as he was on the wrong side of the water he was unable to prevent its destruction. After the ship was fired, the Earl of Derby entered Rossall hall (then the residence of Richard Fleetwood), from whence he caused to be carried away such arms as he found there.<sup>1</sup>

The inhabitants of Poulton being divided between the king and the parliament, and there being many Roman Catholics in the parish, it is interesting to know who were those who, in compliance with the order of the House of Commons, bound themselves to maintain the Protestant religion against all Popish innovations; "the Protestation" (as it was called) was taken at "Pulton" on 25 February, 1641-2 (Bispham being treated as a distinct parish). Those who took it were :

The Protestation, 25 February, 1641.

PULTON.

Peter White, minister there.	Rich <sup>d</sup> Aw[a]rds.
James Taylor, sen <sup>r</sup> .	Rich <sup>d</sup> Dobsonne.
James Taylor, jun <sup>r</sup> .	William Fisher.
Richard Hull.	Richard Fisher.
Richard Bamber.	Richard Pearson.
Robert Crookall.	Lawrence Fisher.

<sup>1</sup> *Discourse of the Warr in Lanc.*, Chet. Soc., vol. lxii. pp. 25, 26; and *Memoirs of Earl of Derby*, Chet. Soc., vol. lxvi. p. lxxxii.

John Dobsonne.	Robert Creane.
Thos. Dobsonne, sen <sup>r</sup> .	John Fisher.
John Walsh.	John Browne.
Robt. Hodgsonne.	Richard Bircher.
John Bagot.	Nicolas Nickson.
John Whiteside.	Richard Taylor, sen <sup>r</sup> .
Georg Shawe.	Thomas Creane, jun <sup>r</sup> .
Thomas Shawe.	Robert Sanderson.
William Garlick.	Matthew Roe.
William Cotton.	William Swarbrick.
Lawrence Swarbrick.	Thomas Aw[a]rds.
John Shawe.	John Whiteside.
William Walsh.	Thomas Marcer.
William Roe.	William Farbrother.
John Bamber.	William Durham.
John Harrison.	Richard Raby.
Robert Hentwisle.	John Bray.
William Pateson.	Richard Kirkham.
Thomas Creane, sen <sup>r</sup> .	John Taylor.
John Silcock, sen <sup>r</sup> .	William Conpstie[?Comstey].
William Silcocke.	Edmund Hull.
Richard Davie.	James Davie.
Thomas Peper.	Richard Garlicke.
William Hodgson.	George Hodgsonne.
John Higginson.	John Woodhouse.
James Creane.	Rd. Woodhouse.
Georg Clarke.	William Greenhall.
Wm. Hodgson	Henrie Porter.
John Hodgson.	John Cartmell.
Matthew Westfield.	Awrd Jenkinson.
Richard Jenkinson.	Thomas Dickson.
William Jenkinson.	Arthur Barrow.
Thomas Jenkinson.	John Swarbrecke.
William Hull, sen <sup>r</sup> .	Robert Barton.
William Hull, jun <sup>r</sup> .	John Wilson.

James Wilkinson.	John Rathmell.
William Wilkinson.	Edmund Fleetwood, gent.
Richard Wilkinson.	John Bamber.
Thomas Wilkinson.	Thomas Dagger.
William Garlicke.	Thomas Shaw.
Richard Walsh.	William Casson.
John Silcock.	Thomas Hull.
Richard Bisbrowne.	Richard Tylor, jun <sup>r</sup> . <sup>1</sup>

Petty sessions have been held in Poulton for several centuries. The records of the Thirty Sworn Men of Kirkham, contain an entry to the effect that, in 1639, the churchwardens of Kirkham were summoned to meet the justices at Layton (for what purpose does not appear), and to attend quarter sessions at Poulton, where they treated the justices with a "Quart of Wine and sugar," which cost 12*d*. In 1770, a court was established here for the recovery of small debts, called the Court of Requests, which, in 1847, was superseded by the County Court.

It was about this time (early in 17th century) that the name of the parish began to be spelt "Poulton," in earlier records it is nearly always spelt "Pulton."

For many centuries prior to the building of Fleetwood, Poulton was a port of no mean importance; it had two harbours, one at Wardleys, on the east side of the river Wyre, and the other at Skippool. Here ships laden with timber from America, and flax and tallow from Russia, were discharged; and within a very few years past ships came here with flax from Belfast, and grain from Scotland. In the reign of Queen Anne, the collector of customs at Poulton received a salary of £30 a year.

Poulton formerly did a considerable business in flax.

In 9 Geo. I. (1722-3), a survey of various ports was made, when the commissioners reported: "We appoint and set down and settle the bounds and limits of the Port of Poulton that is to say from the West side of the River Astland and Douglas and all

<sup>1</sup> *MS.* in the House of Lords' Library. For the above copy I am indebted to Mr. J. E. Bailey, F.S.A.

over the river all from thence to the South side of the river Ribble running easterly and all on the north side of the same river Ribble running westerly to the foot of the same river and from thence all along the sands and the sea coast. Over the river Broadfleet northerly including St. Stephen' channel all the said river Broadfleet and all over the river Wyer. And from 12 fathoms of water at the foot of the river Ribble Southward to 12 fathoms of water at the foot of the river Wyer northward and from thence to the foot of the said river Broadfleet easterly. And we appoint the places hereinafter mentioned to be places, keys or wharfes respectively for the landing discharging lading or shipping of any goods or merchandize, that open place called the Mains Brow ; that open place called James Road in Higham Pool ; that open place in Ribble behind the Stakes to the Westward and Harrison's pool to the Eastward." Poulton was described as a "member of the Port of Chester."<sup>1</sup>

Skippool, or Skipton, the little stream running from Marton Moss to the Wyre, is mentioned by the poet Drayton. He writes :

"Shee in her crooked course to Seaward softly slides,  
Where Pellin's mighty mosse and Merton's on her sides  
Their boggy breasts outlay and *Skipton* downe doth crawl  
To entertain this Wyre attained to her fall."<sup>2</sup>

In Speed's map of 1610, the stream is marked as "Skippon flu;" in the 14th century it was, however, called "Skippol."

The town of Poulton does not appear to have had a charter either for its market or fairs. The market square, which was formerly surrounded by thatched houses and shops, and where tradition says stood a mote hall, still contains the fish-stones, the steps and shaft of the market cross, the whipping-post and stocks. Here also stands the house of Alexander Rigby of Layton, with the date 1693 on its front. During the last century most of the landowners of the district had houses in the town of Poulton.

<sup>1</sup> Special Commissions. Exchequer, Q.R., 6914.

<sup>2</sup> *Polyolbion*, part ii.

In the *Monthly Magazine* for August, 1816, is a letter from a native of Poulton, in answer to a correspondent who is seeking a cheap place to live in, he writes : "The best first flour is now selling at from 56s. to 58s. per pack ; seconds at from 46s. to 50s. Butter sells at 10d. and 11d. per lb. of 20 oz. ; this article averages about 1d. per lb. dearer during the bathing season, on account of its vicinity to Blackpool ; it has within the last three months been as low as 8d. per lb. Eggs are 6d. per dozen. Milk 2d. per quart. Beef 6d. to 7½d. per lb. Veal 4½d. to 5½d., and other articles the produce of the neighbourhood equally reasonable. Rents are low, though we have very few empty houses. . . . . The town of Poulton contains little more than 1000 inhabitants. I can say little in favour of the good regulations of the town, as we have no justice of the peace within fifteen or eighteen miles ; however, there are many respectable inhabitants, and I think I might very safely add a word or two in favour of their sociability. Upon the whole, I make no hesitation in saying that [the correspondent] would find no difficulty in being able to live in Poulton upon a small establishment, with respectability, with less than £100 a year."

#### THE TOWN OF FLEETWOOD.

As this town is not yet fifty years old, its history is necessarily soon told. In 1835, the Preston and Wyre Railway Harbour and Dock Company, having obtained the requisite powers, commenced to carry out the work which ended in the formation of the town and harbour. Thornber,<sup>1</sup> writing in 1837, says : "Vigorous operations have already commenced ; a few houses and an excellent hotel have been erected, the principal streets marked out by the plough and with their first coating of gravel ; and the spirited proprietor, P. Hesketh Fleetwood, is now laying out tasteful pleasure grounds for the accommodation of those whom curiosity or interest may induce to visit this once dreary scene. The busy tramp of men is putting to flight the ancient possessors

<sup>1</sup> *Hist. of Blackpool*, p. 313.



of the soil—the rabbits." Previous to this, there was not a single house where Fleetwood now stands.

In 1839, by order of the treasury, Fleetwood was made a warehousing port, and ten years later it was constituted an independent port. The iron wharf, built after the designs of Robert Stevenson, at a cost of £21,000, was opened in 1841; in 1840 the railway was opened. On 20 September, 1847, the Queen and the Prince Consort paid a visit to Fleetwood *en route* from Scotland.

The town is managed by improvement commissioners, under a local act. In 1861 the population was 3,834. (See Rossall Hall, chapter vi.)

#### THE POPULATION AND AREA OF THE PARISH OF POULTON.

	Area in Statute Acres.	In- habited houses 1881.	Popula- tion, 1801.	Popula- tion, 1861.	Popula- tion, 1881.
Great Marton	5,452	471	972	1,258	2,303
Hardhorn-with-Newton	2,605	77	311	386	420
Great and Little Carleton	1,979	77	269	363	377
Poulton-le-Fylde [township]	900	285	769	1,141	1,225
Thornton <sup>1</sup>	9,730	1,351	617	5,084	7,589

<sup>1</sup> Includes Fleetwood.

## CHAPTER II.

## ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

## THE PARISH CHURCH.

THIS church is of very great antiquity, and is undoubtedly one of the oldest foundations in the county. At the close of the 11th century it formed part of the possessions of Roger de Poictou who, in his charter for endowment of the priory of Lancaster, in the year 1094, gave (amongst other lands) in "Agmunderness, Pulton and whatever belonged to it, and the church with one carucate of land with all other appurtenances"<sup>1</sup> to God and St. Martin of Sees in Normandy. Probably on the attainure of Roger de Poictou the church reverted to the crown, as a century later (time of Richard I.) Theobald Walter (who had de Poictou's lands granted to him) held the advowson of Pulton, which he quitclaimed, with the church of Biscopham, to the monks of Sees and Lancaster.<sup>2</sup> The abbots of Cockersand also had obtained some lands here, as in 7 John (1205-6) an agreement was come to between them and the abbots of Lancaster as to tithes in the parish.<sup>3</sup> The abbots of the Benedictine monastery of Stanlawe in the 13th century had acquired considerable possessions in Poulton, especially in Staining, where they had a grange and a chantry, which Sir Alexander, the rector of half the church of Pulton, confirmed to them as far as he could by charter executed in the year 1241 (see p. 25).

Shortly after this (in 1246) a mediety of the church (with the chapel of Biscopham) was confirmed by John Romanus, arch-

<sup>1</sup> Reg. St. Mariz, *Harl. MS.* fol. 3,764.

<sup>2</sup> *Lanc. MS.* fol. 77.

<sup>3</sup> Aug. office, *Mis. Chart.*, E 9.

deacon of Richmond, to St. Martin of Sees and St. Mary of Lancaster, who at the same time assured to those monasteries the other mediety after the death of the then incumbent, when they were to appoint a vicar whose income was to be twenty marks per annum.<sup>1</sup> In 1275 a vicar was appointed.<sup>2</sup>

According to Pope Nicholas's taxation, made about the year 1291, the church of Pulton was worth £46 13s. 4d. old tax, and only £13 6s. 8d. the new tax, being held by the priory of St. Mary, whilst the monks of Stanlawe held in the parish lands for which they paid the priory of Lancaster ten marks per annum: the vicarage was rated at £6 13s. 4d. old tax, and £2 the new; the prior of Norton was entitled to £2 (in sheaves of wheat). In 26 Edward I. (1297-9) Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, and others, held in trust for the prior of Lancaster divers messuages and tenements in Pulton.<sup>3</sup>

Towards the middle of the next century the fabric of the church had been allowed to suffer for want of repairs, in consequence of which Simon de Bekyngham, "vicar general of the lord archdeacon of Richmond," addressed a letter (dated at York 23 August, 1345) to Sir William, rector of St. Michael-on-the-Wyre, and Thurston, rector of Preston and dean of Amounderness, giving them power "to canonically co-erce" Sir William, vicar of the church of Pulton, or the religious men, the priors, and monks of Lancaster, "to re-make and repair the chancel of the church of Pulton and the chapel of Bispham annexed to the same," the necessary repairs were to be done with as little delay as the circumstances of the case permitted.<sup>4</sup> (See appendix.)

No doubt the chancel was repaired, as, in 1351, Henry de Walton, archdeacon of Richmond, personally visited the archdeaconry, and called upon the prior and monks of St. Mary's to show their right to hold (amongst other things) the parish church

<sup>1</sup> Baines' *Lanc.*, vol. ii. p. 507, new edit.

<sup>2</sup> *Harl. MS.*, No. 3,764; Ducarel's *Rep. Vic.*

<sup>3</sup> *Inq. post mort.*, 27 Edward I., N. 122.

<sup>4</sup> Augmentation office, *Mis. Chart.*, vol. xviii., No. 227.

of Pulton, with the chapel of the same of Biscopham. The priors, by their proctor, answered to the summons, and proved to the archdeacon's satisfaction, by "many instruments and muniments, and apostolic letters, and by witnesses worthy of credit," that they had canonically obtained Pulton church and its chapel, together with all the tithes and pensions belonging thereto, except the portion of the vicar of Pulton; whereupon they were dismissed "in peace, sufficiently strengthened in the premises and the canons possessions of the same from further trouble or disturbance, saving always the rights, liberties, customs and honour" of the archdeaconry. This instrument was given at Lancaster, the third day of October, 1351.<sup>1</sup> (See appendix.)

Henry V., in the second year of his reign (1414-15), dissolved the alien priories, and by this step Pulton church, with the other possessions of the priory of Lancaster, passed to the crown, but only to be again used for endowments.

The king by his royal charter, dated at Westminster 3 March, 1415, founded within his manor of Islesworth, in the county of Middlesex, a religious house of the Bridgetine order, which was to be called "The Monastery of St. Saviour and St. Bridget of Syon of the order of St. Augustine," and which was to consist of sixty nuns (of whom one was to be the abbess), and twenty-five religious men.<sup>2</sup> The first stone of this monastery was laid on 22 Feb., 1415,<sup>3</sup> by the king in person, who, by charter dated 20 April, 1416, endowed it with (amongst other lands, &c., of alien convents) £110 from the farm of the priory of Lancaster, to be paid yearly by Giles Lovell, the then prior, for his life; and after his death, "or sooner if may be," the whole of the priory, with its appurtenances; these various properties were granted to Thomas,

<sup>1</sup> Ant. Cartæ in the Augmentation office, E 8. The other places referred to are the church of Lancaster, the chapels of Caton, Gressynham, Overton and Stalmyne, and a yearly pension from Preston church of ten marks, and of half a mark from Hesham church, also rights of forest and hunting in Myerscowe, Fulwood, Quernmore, and other places.

<sup>2</sup> *Rot. Cart.*, 2 Hen. V., f. 2, M. 28.

<sup>3</sup> *Archæol.*, vol. xvii. p. 327.

Bishop of Durham, Sir Henry Fitz-Hugh, knt., Sir John Rodenale, knt., and Thomas Fishburn, clerk, as trustees.<sup>1</sup> This grant was confirmed by Hen. VI. in 1423, and again confirmed by Edw. IV. in the first year of his reign (1461-62).

Giles Lovell, the last prior of Lancaster, died in 1428,<sup>2</sup> after whose decease the goods of the priory were confiscated by the archbishop of York, pending a controversy between the abbess of Syon and the archdeacon of Richmond, as to tithes accrued; the priory was granted to Syon in frank almoigne, by the trustees named above, on 3 September, 1432.<sup>3</sup> In 1422 a vicar was appointed by the treasurer of England, in virtue of letters patent (see chapter III.), and in 1437 the abbess of Syon presented.

There was a chantry in the church of Poulton in the 15th century, which was probably founded by one of the Thorntons family, as in 1414 John de Thorntons was buried there (see p. 15). It subsequently fell into disuse, as it is not named amongst the suppressed chantries.

In the year 1492 a survey was taken of the possessions of the monastery of Syon, from which the following is an abstract :

#### TITHES.

Pulton <sup>4</sup>	-	-	-	-	4 marks.
Merton	-	-	-	-	7 marks.
Latton [Laton]	-	-	-	-	6 marks.
Thornton	-	-	-	-	6 marks.
Pulton	-	-	-	-	5 marks.
Holmes	-	-	-	-	4 marks.
Stebenyng [Staining]	-	-	-	-	10 marks.
					℥ s. d.
Pulton with Cleveland					
[? Cleveleys]	-	-	-	-	6 0 0
Birsham [Bispham]	-	-	-	-	6 0 0
Carlton	-	-	-	-	6 13 4

<sup>1</sup> *Rot. Pat.*, 4 Hen. V., M. 22.

<sup>3</sup> Simpson's *Lancaster*, p. 241.

<sup>2</sup> *Rot. Pat.*, 2 Hen. VI., p. 3, M. 21.

<sup>4</sup> This may refer to Poulton near Lancaster.

The whole of the Lancashire property was let by the abbey to John de Shyngleton for £160 a year.<sup>1</sup>

In the time of Henry VIII. (1535) a general valuation of church property was taken, no doubt as a preliminary step to the dissolution of the monasteries. This survey, known as the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*, or the *Liber Regis*, gives the following valuation of Pouiton :

The parsonage with orchard, per annum, xx<sup>s</sup>; Tithes of calves, vij<sup>s</sup>; Tithes of hay, xxiiij<sup>s</sup>; Tithes of flax and hemp, xx<sup>s</sup>; For oblations and Easter dues cxvij<sup>s</sup>; Reprises — for synondals, ij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>; for procurations, iiij<sup>s</sup> v<sup>d</sup>; clear value, vii<sup>li</sup> xvj<sup>s</sup> vii<sup>d</sup>, out of which x marks had to be paid.

The monastery of Syon was suppressed, and its possessions surrendered to the king's commissioners in 1539, shortly after which the receiver (John Mores, Esq.) received from Poulton, *cum membris*, £30 6s. 8d., as a year's rent due from Thurston Tyldesley the farmer thereof, at the same time he had from George Singleton, farmer of the Amounderness property, £36 13s. 4d., which included c<sup>s</sup> in part payment of a fine.<sup>2</sup>

At the time of the suppression amongst those to whom annuities were granted were :

Alyce Pulton, a pension of	£2	13	4
John Alan	„	2	0 0

The commissioners who enquired into the chantries in Lancashire<sup>3</sup> reported that at Pulton, land had been given by the vicar of Brotherton (?)<sup>4</sup> to the finding of a light in the parish church for ever of the yearly value of iiij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup>. In 1584 the church underwent some repairs, as it appears from Bishop Bird's register that in that year "the church wardens pleaded one chalis off xiiij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> to Mr. George Kyghley for the reparacion of the church."

In 1552 another commission was issued ordering a complete

<sup>1</sup> Aungier's *History of Syon Monastery*.

<sup>2</sup> *Receiver's Accounts*, Hen. VIII., Chapter House, A. 3. 9.

<sup>3</sup> *Lanc. Chant.*, Chet. Soc., vol. lx. p. 253.

<sup>4</sup> This should probably read "vicar Bretherton."

inventory of church goods, plate, jewels and ornaments belonging to churches, chapels, fraternities or guilds.<sup>1</sup> The inquisition referring to Poulton was taken at Preston, 18 November, 1552, before Sir Richard Houghton, knt., George Brown, and Thomas Barton, Esq., when the following were declared by the vicar and churchwardens to belong to the parish church :

“ij chalyces.

iiij lyttle belles in the steple.

. . . . copes.

iiij albes, a masse hudd and stoyle whereof one is made of red satyn and one of blewe buscyan, one of black chamlet and one checked vestyment, one old cope.”

This return is signed by “Sir Robert Clerke Vycar” and Sir Henry Norton, parish priest. (See chapter III.)

Queen Mary, in 1557, restored Syon monastery, but it was again dissolved on the accession of Elizabeth, and the advowson of Poulton once more passed to the crown, and was shortly afterwards granted to John Fleetwood of Penwortham, who presented a vicar in 1565, and his descendants retained it for many generations, when it passed to the Heskeths, who are the present patrons.

From the will of Thomas Hogson of Little Carleton, yeoman, dated 2 June, 1566, it would appear that the church was then undergoing repairs, as he left iijs iiij<sup>d</sup> to “the reparation of the church.”

In 1619, in a list of parishes which paid “tenths yearly after 4s. in the £,” Poulton was put down as of the value of £7 16s. 8d.<sup>2</sup> In the parliamentary church survey of 1650, Poulton was returned as a vicarage, the presentation of which was held by Sir Paul fleetwood, knt. The tithes of Poulton, Marton, and part of Bispham-cum-Norbreck being impropriate to Baron Rigby, and

<sup>1</sup> The original *MS.* is somewhat defective, and only the letter “P” of Poulton is readable, but there is no doubt but that it refers to that parish.

<sup>2</sup> Bishop Bridgeman’s *MSS.*

worth £90, The tithes of Hardhorne-cum-Newton, Carleton, Thorneton, and part of Bispham-cum-Norbreck, were impropriate to Sir Thomas Tildesley (a delinquent and under sequestration), and worth £140 a year; the tithes of Laton were impropriate to Alexander Rigby, Esq., and were worth £20 2s. a year. There was a vicarage house and two acres of land belonging to the vicar (which were valued at 40s.), and the small tithes and tithe salt, for which the following rent was due to the vicar by prescription, viz., 4s. a year for tithe hay in Warbrecke, and 1s. 6d. for hay in Oxendene meadow by composition, 3s. 4d. for tithe hemp and flax in Laton-cum-Warbreck by prescription, 13s. 4d. by Mr. Alexander Rigby, for his small tithes in Laton, 20s. for tithe hay in Bispham by prescription, 20s. in Norbreck for tithe hay by composition, and 10d. for hemp and flax by prescription; the profits of the vicarage were then worth £55, but are said formerly to have been worth £60 a year. Bispham is described as a parochial chapel within the parish of Poulton, which had formerly been a parish church; the inhabitants humbly desired again to be made a parish; the people of Marton pleaded that as they were five miles from Poulton, and "in the winter season for the most part debarred from any church by water," they should be made a separate parish, having annexed to them Laton-rakes and Blackpool, and that a church or chapel should be erected there.<sup>1</sup>

In 1687, Richard Flectwood of Rossall hall, charged his lands with a payment of £10 a year to the church.<sup>2</sup> According to Bishop Gastrell's *Notitia Cestriensis*, in 1725 the living was worth £28 18s. 5¼d., viz., glebe land (12 acres) and church yard £2 9s., tithe hay, hemp, and flax £5 15s. 5d. by prescription; tithe hay in kind £3 18s. Easter dues let for £9. Tithe of geese, hemp, and flax in kind let for £1 15s., tithe pigs £1 1s., surplice fees £5.

The church of Poulton (which is dedicated to St. Chad)<sup>3</sup> has

<sup>1</sup> Church Survey (Lambeth Library). Record Society, vol. i. p. 151.

<sup>2</sup> *Notitia Cestriensis*, Chet. Soc., vol. xxii. p. 456.

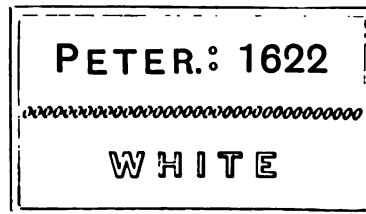
<sup>3</sup> St. Chad, the Anglo-Saxon Saint, and Bishop of Lichfield, gave his name also to the Rochdale parish church and Saddleworth chapel. This dedication points to the great antiquity of Poulton church.



been repaired, restored, and rebuilt so often, that probably no portion of the present building is of any great antiquity ; the oldest part is the tower, which is said to have been erected in the time of Charles I., but which is probably considerably older.

From the tower, at some time, there has been an entrance to the church, as, notwithstanding the repeated coats of plaster and whitewash, the top of the round Norman shaped arch is still visible ; and the masonry outside shows a faint trace of a west window.

The ancient church to which this tower was added (or possibly erected in place of an older one) was pulled down in 1751, as is proved by an entry in the registers of that year: "June 1751, Margaret daughter of James Bisbrown, baptized in her own house by reason church was down." It was built of red-sand stone, double roofed, and lighted by semicircular windows; the roof was supported by four octagonal pillars, from which sprang semicircular arches, corresponding with the windows. The pulpit stood on the south side, and at the east end was a gallery ; there was a nave, north aisle, and chancel ; the latter was, it may be assumed, either built or repaired in 1622, as a small stone let into the wall<sup>1</sup> above the chancel of the present building bears the following inscription :



Peter White was then vicar. Another stone, now in the baptistry, has carved upon it what are no doubt the initials of the churchwardens, and was intended to record some event connected with the church.

**P.B. W.G. J.H. T.G. J.H. W.G. 1638.**

<sup>1</sup> In 1869 it was removed to the baptistry.

In the vicarage is an old stone font, which tradition says came from the church, which on its eight sides has inscribed,

+ . M. H. 1649. . . .<sup>1</sup>

The present font, which replaced an older one, was presented by the daughter of the Rev. Canon Hull, and has inscribed on it, "Frances Mary Hull, baptized April 21st, 1846. Fell asleep in Jesus, May 6th, 1866."

In the south-east of the church is the vault of the Fleetwood family, which is approached from the outside by a door within a stone porch, over which is engraved, "Insignia Rici Fleetwood ari hujus eccliæ patrone. Anno Dni 1699."<sup>2</sup>

Over this vault were the Fleetwood pews. The present baptistry in the west end is surrounded with a carved oak screen and a door, on which is carved A R. 1636, and a goat's head, the crest of the Rigby's of Layton ; this was formerly part of this family's pew. In the baptistry is a stained glass two-light window, "In memory of Robert Buck of Agecroft Hall, Pendlebury in this County Esq. born Mar. 9 1805. Died 29 Dec. 1862. The gift of his Sister, Catherine Dautesey — Foxton." The donor of this window left by will £6,000 for a dispensary for Poulton and Blackpool, and a sum of £100 to the vicar of Poulton for the use of the parish.

In 1877, when the pulpit (which was erected in 1755) [see Churchwardens' Accounts] was removed to be replaced by a new one, it was discovered that it formed the outer covering of a more ancient pulpit, which for some purpose had been thus incased for probably many generations. The relict thus recovered was of black oak, elaborately carved (much in the style of the Rigby pew), and had originally been octagon-shaped, one panel being wanting ; along the top of the panels, in raised letters, ran the inscription, "Crie alovd spare not lift vp thy voyce like" [a

<sup>1</sup> Here is something like a crown, but it is nearly defaced.

<sup>2</sup> In 1882 some workmen discovered, on removing the lead gutter over this vault, that a portion of a similar inscription was cut on the stone cornice in raised three inch letters.

Trvmpet] ; below this was carved in relief a Norman arch, and in a diamond-shaped centre a human face.

There are in Lancashire at least two pulpits bearing the above inscription, and of similar character ; one stands in Freckleton church (having formerly belonged to Kirkham), it has no date ; the other is at Stydd chapel, near Ribchester, and bears the date of 1636.

The panels of the pulpit found at Poulton are now fixed to the south-east wall of the church, over the seats of the vicar's family.

On one of the pews on the north side of the church is inscribed, " 1622 J. B. E." On another is " 17. T. W. 02." A wooden panel at the west end has the following cut on it :

" Rich. Dickson.	John Hull.
Rich. Wilson.	Rich. Willson.
John Woodhouse. Churchwardens 1730."	

The old churchwardens' pew formerly had a brass plate on it inscribed, " Thomas Whiteside, Jo<sup>n</sup> Wilkinson, Jo<sup>n</sup> Whiteside, Tho<sup>s</sup> Cornwhite, Jo<sup>n</sup> Hodgson, Churchwardens 1737."

Previous to the pulling down of the church in 1751, there was, as already stated, a gallery in the east end, to which the following extract relates : " This Indenture, made 7 Dec. 1741, between Henry Low of Poulton, house carpenter, and William Jolly of Melthop-with-Peese, yeoman. Witnesseth that for £4 Henry Law doth grant and sell to William Jolly his heirs and assigns all that one pew or seat standing in the gallery or loft at or in the east end of Poulton church, adjoyning on the east side thereof to John Wilkinson's pew and on the west side to John Birley's pew to have and to hold the same for two thousand years next ensuing, yielding and paying one pepper corn at the Feast day of Pentecost yearly if demanded. The said Henry Law, hath in himself good right full power and absolute authority by good and just title in the law to grant and sell the same. In witness whereof, &c."

The faculty to pull down this gallery was granted 25 June, 1751, " on the request and certificate of Roger Hesketh, Esq.,

patron, the Rev. Robert Loxham clerk, vicar, and the churchwardens, to John Bird, John Birley, and Richard Tennant, all of Poulton, gentlemen (for the better uniformity of the parish church of Poulton which was taken down and rebuilding), to take down the gallery over the chancel in the east end of the said church which was then very irregular and incommodious and to rebuild the same with a convenient staircase, stairs and passage leading thereto of their own expense in the west end thereof to adjoin to the north side of the gallery there then standing and to be made uniform therewith and to make satisfaction to the several owners of the seats in the said gallery for the damage sustained in removing the same and altering and lessening the seats therein, to erect a gallery in each side of the said church with convenient staircases leading thereto, at the north-east and south-west ends of the said church if necessary according to the form of the said certificate annexed and also to remove the pulpit and reading desk from the place where the same then lately stood near to the place where the churchwardens' seat was then lately situated, as it will greatly tend to the conformity of the said church and to the benefit and advantage of the inhabitants of the said parish and also that they might have liberty to sell and dispose of the seats to be contained in said intended side galleries, to such persons in the said parish as should most be in need thereof to reimburse themselves the charges and expenses they would necessarily be put to in building the said intended galleries and making the alterations aforesaid."<sup>1</sup>

The churchyard was at this time surrounded with a ditch, on the borders of which were several fine sycamore trees, which were subsequently cut down.<sup>2</sup>

In 1781, or perhaps a year or two before, an organ was erected. Before that year a bassoon appears to have been the only musical instrument used. (See Churchwarden's Accounts). A clock was in the tower in 1765, and the church floor at that time was

<sup>1</sup> Original *M.S.*

<sup>2</sup> Thornber's *Blackpool*, p. 285.

covered with rushes. In the tower is a peal of six bells which bear the following inscriptions :

"Prosperity to all our benefactors.	A. R. 1741.
"Peace and good neighbourhood.	A. R. 1741.
"Prosperity to this parish.	A. R. 1741.
"When you us ring	A. R. 1741.
"We'll sweetly sing. }	
"Able Rudhall	
cast us all at Gloucester 1741."	

The sixth bell was re-cast in 1865, and has upon it : "T. Clarke, M.A., vicar ; W. Gaultier, J. T. Bailey, W. Jolly, J. Whiteside churchwardens." On the bell, as originally cast, was "Robert Fishwick, John Wilkinson, William Cookson, James Hull, John Moore, churchwardens."

The following is a list of pews or seats sold the 1 August, 1752, south side, numbered from the east :

	No.
Richard Tennant, a double pew over stair-case .....	1
Miles Barton, surgeon, single pew .....	2
Margaret Turner, spinster, do. ....	3
John Dobson, yeoman, do. ....	4
George Bickerstaff, yeoman, do. ....	5
Ann Hall, widow, double pew .....	6
Christopher Albin, clerk, do. ....	7
Richard Tennant, do. ....	8
Thomas Whiteside, skinner do. ....	9
Thomas Threlfall, do. ....	10
Edmund Hornby, Esq., do. ....	11
William Smithson, yeoman, single pew .....	12
Richard Tennant, do. ....	13
Alexander Singleton, gentleman, do.....	14
Alexander Singleton do.....	15

North Side.

	No.
John Birley, over the staircase, double pew .....	1

	No.
Roger Whiteside, the second front pew from the east...	2
Thomas Fair, husbandman, the first single pew .....	3
Thomas Barton, yeoman, the third front pew .....	4
John Cottam, cooper, the second single pew .....	5
John Hornby, yeoman, the fourth double pew.....	6
William Sanderson, yeoman, the third single pew .....	7
Ellen Whiteside, widow, the fifth front double pew.....	8
Henry Porter, yeoman, the fourth single pew .....	9
The said John Birley, the sixth front double pew .....	10
Edward Smith, saddler, the fifth single pew.....	11
The said John Birley, the seventh front pew .....	12
The said John Birley, the sixth single pew .....	13
Alice Hull, widow, the eighth front pew .....	14
William Cookson, husbandman, the seventh single pew and adjoining the last .....	15
Richard Dewhurst, husbandman, another single pew aback of the said William Cookson's pew.....	16
William Bickerstaffe, the ninth front pew.....	17
John Webster, yeoman, the eighth single pew aback of last.....	18
Richard Wilkinson, gent., another single pew aback of last.....	19

In 1868 an apse was added to the church at the cost of the Rev. T. Clarke, the then vicar.

In 1883 the church underwent extensive repairs; the floor of the church was raised, and a "chorus cantorum" formed in the place of the old square pews, the east end staircases were removed, and the pulpit removed to its present position.

The present vicarage was built in 1823 by public subscription. Amongst the church plate is a large silver paten, on which is inscribed "Poulton 1699," it is impressed with "Britannia," a "lion's head erased," and the date-letter C, and "Ro," and was therefore made in 1698-9, by Hugh Roberts of Newgate street, London; a small chalice, of which the marks are too much worn to deci-

pher, but on the front is, "Given for the poor sick communicants in the Parish of Poulton in the County of Lancaster"; a small paten which forms the lid to the cup, and on which the hall mark is a lion passant, a leopard's head crowned (the maker's initial is defaced), this has the date 1735; and a silver flagon with no inscription except the letters B W on the bottom.

#### MONUMENTAL BRASSES AND INSCRIPTIONS IN THE CHURCH.

In the chancel on the south side, during the recent alterations, were discovered beneath the soil two massive stone slabs, upon which were two brasses, in good preservation, inscribed as follows: <sup>1</sup>

Here lyeth the Body of  
Geoffery Hornby Esq.  
Who departed this Life  
on the 27<sup>th</sup> of March  
1732.  
Aged 48 years.<sup>2</sup>

---

Here lieth  
the body of  
Dorothy Hornby  
Daughter of  
Jeoffery Hornby Esq<sup>r</sup> of Poolton,  
who died the 8<sup>th</sup> day of March  
Anno Dom. MDCCXL  
in the 21<sup>st</sup> year of her age.

On both of these were inscribed the family arms, "argent a chevron gules, between three bugle horns sable, stringed." In 1876, near the place where the altar formerly stood, was found a brass plate, with the inscription:

<sup>1</sup> These have been placed on the south wall of the church, near the place where they were found.

<sup>2</sup> The lead coffin of Geoffrey Hornby was entire.

Here lyes the body  
of Anne Wife of  
Richard Harrison,  
Vicar of Poolton,  
who dyed the sixth  
of December 1697  
Aged 55 years.

On the north wall (in gallery) are tablets

In memory  
of the Rev<sup>d</sup> Robert Bowness the curate of this Church for  
24 years, he died at Baisbeck in Westmoreland his  
native place. July 17<sup>th</sup> 1843.

Aged 56 years  
and was interred at Orton in the same County.  
Also of Agnes, his wife the Daughter of W. Harrison of  
this Town Gent she died,

Aug<sup>st</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> 1815. aged 29 years.

---

Sacred to the memory of  
William Trevenen, second son of the Rev<sup>d</sup> William  
Birkett, A.M. and Mary his wife. who departed this  
Life at Rossall Hall,

in this county  
April 3<sup>rd</sup> 1815, aged 14 years.

IN THE CHANCEL are the following tablets:

In  
affectionate remembrance  
of  
Thomas Clark M.A.  
Vicar of this place  
Who died 27<sup>th</sup> of March 1869  
Aged 64 years.  
Erected by his Widow  
Louisa Clark.

Hunc cancellum ædificavit.  
Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.  
They rest from their labours and their  
works do follow them.



*The History of Poulton-le-Fylde.*

In memoriam  
 Louisa  
 Widow of Rev. Thomas Clark M.A.  
 Obiit Sep. 10<sup>th</sup> 1876.  
 She built Staining School-Church  
 in this Parish.  
 This Tablet is erected by the  
 Rev. T. H. Clark M.A.

---

In Memory of  
 Francis William Conry  
 Only and dearly beloved child of  
 Albinia and Francis H. Macfadin Esq.  
 47<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>  
 Who fell asleep in Jesus  
 at Fleetwood February 4<sup>th</sup> 1873  
 Aged 3 years and 3 months.  
 "Is it well with the child?"  
 She answered "It is well."  
 2 Kings 4. 26.

---

To the Memory  
 of

Bold Fleetwood and Edward Thomas	}	Hesketh. Ann: Salut:	{ 1819 1820 }	Ætat: {	55
21					

Within these Sacred Walls  
 Repose their Remains,  
 In the trembling hope  
 That through the merits and mediation of their Redeemer  
 Their failings shall be pardoned ;  
 Their virtues accepted,  
 Youth and Age  
 Must alike fall beneath the Arm  
 of  
 The insatiable Tyrant !  
 Death strikes indiscriminately  
 Old and young !

Assurance of Redeeming Love, Hope of Future Glory,  
Assuage the bitterness of dissolution, Alleviate the pang of Separation :  
These gave serenity to their expiring moments,  
These afford comfort to their sorrowing friends.

Reader !

Depart in Peace ;  
Imitate their Life ;  
Then shall thy latter end be such as they experienced.  
They died the Death  
of the  
Righteous.  
The Uncle died in Maturity of Life  
The Nephew in the dawn of Manhood.

---

Sacred to the Memory of their departed parents  
Fleetwood and Frances Hesketh,  
This Marble is erected as a token of the sorrow  
of their afflicted children.  
The Father  
Most worthy of filial Love,  
Whom, in early life, Death tore from their fond embrace,  
His Infants,  
Alike unconscious of his virtues as of their own misfortune,  
Lamented  
With tears, forgotten soon as shed.  
The Mother,  
Longer spared, better known, and therefore more beloved,  
Was endeared to her children  
By attention unceasing, benefits unnumbered, and affection unwearied,  
Her precepts guided their Orphan years ;  
Her example directed their maturer Age ;  
And they learnt to appreciate her virtue and to venerate her name :  
Christianity inculcated the duty of resignation.  
They obey !  
But while reason and Religion sanction the remembrance of her worth,  
They must continue to deplore her loss.

On south wall (in gallery).

In this Church, lie interred, the Remains of  
Edmund Hornby Esq<sup>r</sup> born Oct<sup>r</sup> 1728 died Sep<sup>r</sup>  
29. 1766 and of Margaret his wife 2<sup>nd</sup> Daughter of  
John Winckley Esq<sup>r</sup>

She was born Nov<sup>r</sup> 1723 died Ap<sup>l</sup> 12.  
1798.

Near them lie the bodies of their Daughters Dorothy  
born Oct. 9, 1753, died May 6. 1769, Sufanna born  
Sep<sup>r</sup> 19, 1756. died Dec<sup>r</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 1799, and four infant  
children.

This Monument is erected to the Memory of Parents  
justly revered and loved ; and Sisters equally dear  
and lamented by

Geoffrey Hornby Rector of Winwick and Marg<sup>t</sup> Hornby  
of Preston.

We sorrow not as those without hope in Christ  
and faith in a Resurrection from the Dead.

We may go to them, but they shall not return to us.

South wall.

In memory of  
Giles Thornber Esq<sup>re</sup>  
for many years an inhabitant and  
acting county magistrate  
in this town.

beloved, honoured, and revered, he departed this life  
April 21<sup>st</sup> 1860, in the 85<sup>th</sup> year of his age.

Also of Elizabeth his wife

The daughter of William Harrison Gent.,  
formerly of this place,

She died April 24<sup>th</sup> 1851 in the 74<sup>th</sup> year of her age.

Keep yourselves in the love of God looking for  
the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal  
life. Jude. 21. v.

On south wall (under the gallery).

In  
memory of  
Sarah Hull  
daughter of William Winstanley and his wife.  
She died in this town 9<sup>th</sup> March 1842.

We believe that Jesus died and rose again  
even so them also which sleep in Jesus  
will God bring with Him.

William Winstanley Hull Esq.  
fellow B: N: Coll: Oxford, and Barrister at law  
the eldest son of John Hull M: D: F: L: S:  
was born at Blackburn March 15<sup>th</sup> 1794  
and died at his residence

The Knowle, Haylewood, August 28<sup>th</sup> 1873  
he was buried in Haylewood Church Yard,  
loved and honoured for his great Abilities,  
his affectionate and generous disposition  
and his fearless avowal of his Saviour.  
Whosoever shall confess me before men,  
him will I confess also before my father  
which is in Heaven.

---

In  
memory of  
Frances Hull  
daughter of Benjamin Wilson and  
Susannah his wife  
born at Manchester 15<sup>th</sup> August 1794  
Married there to William Winstanley Hull 27<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1820  
died at Tickwood near Wenlock, 22<sup>nd</sup> March  
1849.  
Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith.

---

William Wilson Hull M.A.  
Their eldest son, born 18<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1822,  
died 1<sup>st</sup> Sep<sup>er</sup> 1848, in the queen's service  
at Bathurst St. Mary's island in the river  
Gambia.

*The History of Poulton-le-Fylde.*

Henry Mitchell Hull M.A.

Their youngest son, born in London 28<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup>  
1827.

Died at Malvern 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1853.

Gentle, truthful, affectionate, generous,  
Cheerful, modest, active, diligent and resolute,  
of simplest manners and soundest understanding,  
he lived in favour both with the Lord and  
with men,  
hoping by faith in Christ Jesus  
to lay hold on eternal life  
the free gift of God.

---

On south wall.

In memory of

John Hull. M.D.

Born in this town xxx September mdcclxi  
Left the eldest of the three children of John Hull  
surgeon,  
an orphan, at six years of age, poor, and al-  
most friendless : by the best use of all means of  
education within his power, by unwearied  
industry, by constant self denial, he duly  
qualified himself for the practice of his profession  
the study of which he began at Blackburn  
in mdcclxxvii.

in mdcclxxxxi he married Sarah Winstanley of  
Woodcock Hall.

A helpful wife and a most affectionate  
mother

He established himself at Manchester in mdcclxxxvi.

---

Under the blessing of Almighty God

His punctuality, kindness, and cheerful confidence.  
His ready judgment in detecting the causes of disease  
and his practical skill in removing them.

together with his various medical and botanical  
publications  
Brought him wealth, honor and enlarged his  
sphere of usefulness.  
While an increasing faith in the love and  
power of his Saviour  
Cherished and matured his hopes of a better world  
to come.  
In mdcccxxxviii he retired from his profession  
to his native town.

He died in London and was buried in this church yard  
xxii March (1843) mdcccxxxiii. Whatsoever thy hand  
findeth to do, do it with thy might, for there is no work  
nor device, nor knowledge nor wisdom in the grave wither thou  
goest.

---

“I heard a  
voice from  
heaven saying  
unto me. Write  
Blessed are  
the dead  
which die in  
the Lord.”

Rev. xiv. 13.

“I know that  
my Redeemer  
liveth, and  
that he shall  
stand at the  
latter day  
upon the  
earth.”

Job xix. 25.

In affectionate remembrance of  
the Rev. Richard Buck M.A.  
of Agecroft Hall in this county,  
Born June 19<sup>th</sup>, 1761, died August 28<sup>th</sup>, 1845.  
Also of Margaret his wife  
Born April 15<sup>th</sup>, 1770, died January 29<sup>th</sup>, 1835  
and Margaret, their daughter,  
Born April 30<sup>th</sup> 1810, died February 2<sup>nd</sup> 1855.  
Their remains repose in the vault beneath  
“Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation.”  
“Thy kingdom come” “Thy will be done.”

On north wall

Near this Marble

lieth the body of Margaret, daughter  
of John & Ellen Harrison of Poulton,  
who died 13<sup>th</sup> March, 1790, aged 1 year.

Also of Ellen, his wife, who died 20<sup>th</sup>  
September 1790, aged 34 years.

Also of Dorothy, their daughter who  
died 25<sup>th</sup> January, 1791 in the 9<sup>th</sup> year  
of her age.

Also of the said John Harrison,  
who died 1<sup>st</sup> August 1796, aged 43  
Years.

Also in memory of Rob<sup>t</sup> Bickerstaff  
Harrison A.B., their son, who died  
on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April 1810 at Horncastle  
in Lincolnshire aged 23 Years, and  
was there interred.

Also of Agnes their daughter, who died the  
21<sup>st</sup> of Nov<sup>r</sup> 1821 at Louth in Lincolnshire  
aged 40, & was interred at Horncastle,  
also of Richard Harrison M.D. their son  
who died on the 18<sup>th</sup> of January 1825 aged  
40 years and was interred at Horncastle.

In the churchyard, opposite the vestry door (but formerly in  
the chancel) and on a flat stone.

Edward Sherdley, Gentleman  
died the 21 September 1744  
aged 71.

In the church are three hatchments.

On the south-east wall of chancel.

Quarterly 1 and 4 grand quarters—Quarterly 1 and 4. Argent  
a double headed eagle displayed Sable, beaked Or. 2 and 3  
Argent a griffin segreant Sable, armed and beaked Or.——

2 grand quarter, Argent on a bend Sable 3 garbs or; [HESKETH of Rufford.] 3 Grand quarter, per pale nebulé Azure and Or, 6 martlets, 2, 2, and 2, counter-changed; [FLEETWOOD.] Impaling Sable 3 swords in pale proper hilted Or, two erect points upwards, between them one point downwards, a chief indented. Or *Crest*, a garb Or. [RAWLINS or RAWLINSON?]

In the west gallery.

Quarterly of twelve 1 and 12 grand quarters Quarterly 1 and 4 Per pale nebulé Azure and Or 6 martlets, 2, 2, and 2, counter-changed [FLEETWOOD.] 2 and 3 Argent on a bend Sable, 3 Garbs Or, a chief of the second, all within a bordure erminois. 2nd grand quarter, Argent on a chevron quarterly per chevron gules and Sable counter-changed, between 3 cornish choughs of the last three bezants. [ ] 3rd Sable three garbs Or. [ ] 4th per pale nebulé Azure and Or, 6 martlets, 2, 2, and 2, counter-changed, a canton argent [FLEETWOOD of . . . . .]. 5th per fesse indented Argent and Sable, three eagles' heads counter-changed. 6th [FLEETWOOD]. 7th Argent on a bend Sable three bulls passant Or. 8th Quarterly Argent and Gules, in the first quarter a mullet Sable [MASCY of Rixton]. 9th Argent on a bend Sable, three covered cups of the field [RIXTON of Rixton]. 10th Argent a squirrel sejant gules [HORTON of Horton]. 11th Argent a griffin segreant Sable [BOLD?]. Over all an escocheon, Argent, on a fesse wavy gules, between three bulls passant Sable, a sword in fesse proper, hilted Or.

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Quarterly 1 and 4 Or a chevron Sable between three hunting horns gules, stringed of the second [HORNBY (?).] 2 and 3 Per pale Azure and Gules, a double-headed eagle displayed counter-changed. *Crest*, a hunting-horn Gules, stringed Sable.

On the north-east wall is a marble tablet bearing the arms of Brockholes' family of Claughton,<sup>1</sup> near to which several of the family were buried.

<sup>1</sup> Quarterly 1 and 4 argent on a bend sable 3 garbs or [Hesketh]; 2 and 3 argent a chevron sable between three badgers (brocks) of the last.



Baines, in his *History of Lancashire*, says that in the south gallery is an inscription to the "Memory of Christopher Albin, Curate of Bispham, died June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1753, *æt.* 56." This is not there now, but on the door of a pew in the south gallery is a small brass plate, bearing the following inscription, "Introite et orate cælo supinas si tuleris manus sacra feceris malaque effugies" [and in Greek letters, St. John ix. 31].

#### MARTON CHURCH.

At the time of the Parliamentary Church Survey (see p. 43), the inhabitants of Marton "desired to be made a parish," as they had no church or chapel nearer than Poulton.

In and before 1666, Peter Fisher preached several times at Kirkham, and William Langton, who, about 1770, transcribed the records of the "thirty sworn men" of that parish, states that he officiated at Marton. The name of Peter Fisher occurs several times in the Registers of Poulton for that period, but there is nothing to show that he was a clergyman.<sup>1</sup> From the will of Edward Whiteside of Little Marton (see chapter V.), dated 22 December, 1721, it appears that there was then no regularly appointed minister, as he directs his executors, "if there be a minister that preaches at Marton to give him something."

Amongst the Poulton Church Registers is a volume of baptisms at Marton from 1750 to 1812, from which it is clear that in 1750 a minister regularly officiated here. Baines<sup>2</sup> states (but quotes no authority) that in 1760 the Rev. Mr. Gibson, incumbent of Lytham, performed service here in the school. The churchwardens of the parish record that on the 27 March, 1769, they had spent "w<sup>th</sup> the Marton Parson 5s. 3d.," and on 30 June, 1775, "on Marton Singers 10s."

On 1 June, 1760, a licence was granted by the bishop to William Hewitson to the curacy of "Poulton with Marton."<sup>3</sup> At this

<sup>1</sup> See chapter iii. Edward Hull probably assisted the vicar in 1667, and may have officiated here.

<sup>2</sup> *Hist. of Lanc.*, vol. ii. p. 520, new edit.

<sup>3</sup> *Bishop's Register*, Chester.

time the school house was used as a chapel, though unconsecrated, and in 1784 (see chapter V.), Edward Jolly of Mythorpe, by indenture, conveyed £60 to certain trustees, in order to secure a weekly dole of bread to be given to the poor who "attended service at the chapel of Great Marton, immediately after morning service"; for some time before this Edward Jolly had given 6*d.* weekly for the above purpose to the minister who officiated there.<sup>1</sup> The school was used as a chapel until 1800, when the church was erected by public subscription, but which was not consecrated until 1804; in 1848 the porch was added; in 1857 the tower was erected<sup>2</sup> and the church enlarged, and in 1871 the chancel was built.<sup>3</sup> The church is dedicated to St. Paul.

#### THE CURATES OF MARTON.

In 1760 the vicar of Poulton agreed with the bishop to pay to William Hewitson, the "curate of Poulton and of the chapel of Marton, £41 10*s.* a year."<sup>4</sup>

In 1771 the churchwarden for the township of Marton was the Rev. Mr. Butcher, who was no doubt the William Butcher, clerk, who, about this time, was living in Great Bispham; he may possibly have been for a time the officiating minister here; his son Thomas was curate of Stalmine in 1794, and afterwards of Hambleton. — Sawyer, who was the schoolmaster of Baines' school, is said to have been in orders and acted as curate of Marton; if this is correct, he could not have remained long, being succeeded by

GEORGE HALL, who was a native of Penrith, and came here in 1773 or 1774. A tombstone in the churchyard records, "M.S. of the Rev. George Hall, who was the respected minister of this chapel upwards of 40 years. He died February 1, 1814, aged 67, much lamented by his chapelry." During his curacy the church

<sup>1</sup> *Charity Commissioners' Report.*

<sup>2</sup> Three bells were placed here in 1868. In 1871, for the old barrel organ was substituted the present organ.

<sup>3</sup> Between 1805 and 1816 £1,600 was given by Queen Anne's Bounty to meet benefactions for the augmentation of this church; also in 1813 £1,000 by lot from the Parliamentary Grant.

<sup>4</sup> *Bishop's Register*, Chester.

was built. From an entry in the churchwardens' accounts, it would appear that as late as 1811 the inhabitants attended the mother church on Easter Sunday, for in that year it was "resolved that in compliance with the request of the inhabitants of Marton, one pound shall be allowed for an annual dinner on Easter Day in future."

THOMAS BRYER was instituted in 1814, on the death of the last curate (he came from Furness); he also held the appointment of schoolmaster, writing in 1849, he says, "I found the population uncouth, rude, brutal, and, if I may use the expression, positively obstinate in barbarity and its attendant consequences, and entirely destitute of those feelings which solely characterise a liberal education,—so that it might truly be said that the schoolmaster had been abroad."<sup>1</sup> He resigned the incumbency in 1843, and died in 1857. There is a gravestone in the church bearing the inscription, "In Memory of the Rev. Thomas Bryer, for many years Incumbent of this Church, who departed this life April 4, 1857, aged 68 years." Several of his children were buried here.

JAMES COOKSON, the present incumbent, was for several years curate here during Mr. Bryer's incumbency.

#### THORNTON CHURCH.

In the vestry of this church is a board upon which is painted all that is necessary to say about this edifice. "This Church was erected in the year 1835, containing 323 sittings, and in consequence of a grant from the incorporated Society for promoting the enlargement, building and repairing of Churches and Chapels, 193 of that number are hereby declared to be free and unappropriated for ever.—David Hilcock Leighton, Minister; James Smith and Richard Wright, Churchwardens." The church was consecrated in 1836.

The font is inscribed, "Presented to Thornton Church, by Elizabeth Nutter of Rough Lee Hall, Accrington, July 13, 1874."

<sup>1</sup> Gastrell's *Notitia Cestriensis*, vol. ii. p. 460.

There is a marble tablet on the south wall, "To the Memory of Jacob Morris, a faithful Warden for 20 years, who died Oct., 1871." It was not until 1862 that a parochial district was assigned to this church ; previous to that date it was a chapel of ease to Poulton.

#### INCUMBENTS AND VICARS OF THORNTON.

DAVID HILCOCK LEIGHTON was the first incumbent ; he was instituted in 1835, and resigned in 1837. He afterwards became vicar of Worlingham in Suffolk.

EDWARD THURTELL, instituted in 1837 and resigned in 1841. He then accepted the curacy of Caton, near Lancaster (now a vicarage), where he died in 1852. A tablet was erected to his memory in Caton church.

ST. VINCENT BEECHEY, M.A., was appointed in 1841 and resigned in 1846 ; he was at the same time incumbent of Fleetwood church.

ROBERT W. RUSSELL, instituted on the resignation of the last incumbent, and resigned in 1853.

ISAAC DURANT, M.A., appointed in 1853 and resigned in 1869. He died at Islington, where he was principal of the Church Missionary Home.

SAMUEL CLARK held the living from 1869 to 1870.

THOMAS MEADOWS, M.A., is the present vicar.

#### FLEETWOOD CHURCH,

Dedicated to St. Peter, was consecrated in 1841, and was for some time the church of an ecclesiastical district under the mother church of Poulton. In 1857 it had a separate district assigned to it, and became an ecclesiastical parish, the perpetual curate becoming a vicar.

#### THE PERPETUAL CURATES AND VICARS.

ST. VINCENT BEECHEY, M.A., instituted in 1841, resigned in 1849 (see above).

G. YARUDD OSBORNE, M.A., instituted in 1849, and died 11 November, 1871, aged 53. There is a tablet to his memory in the church. Shortly before his death he was presented to St. Thomas's church, Dudley.

SAMUEL HASTING, M.A., was instituted on the death of Mr. Osborne, and gave up the living in 1870, on his appointment to the rectory of Halton, near Lancaster.

JAMES PEARSON, M.A., is the present vicar.

#### BRECK ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPEL.

This was built in 1814, on land given by W. F. Brockholes of Cloughton. The following priests have successively officiated here: Ralph Platt (1814-1830), R. Brown (1830-1834), H. Newsham (1834), P. Orrell (1834-1862), and the Rev. William Johnson.

#### WESLEYAN CHAPEL.

The Methodists, for a long time, held their services in a room behind the King's Arms Inn, Poulton, but in 1819 they built the chapel in Back street, which in 1861 was superseded by the present building.

#### INDEPENDENT CHAPEL.

This was built in 1808; in 1836 it fell into disuse, and was not re-opened for service until 1850.

## CHAPTER III.

## THE VICARS OF POULTON.

Time of Hen. I. 1100-35	Gamello Presbyter de Pultune.
About 1246-47 - - -	Richard parson of Pulton,
1275 (?) - - - - -	Alanus de Pulton, clericus.
1345 - - - - -	Sir William . . . . .
13— - - - -	William de Sothworthe.
Before 1396 - - - -	William de Clayton.
Before 1422 - - - -	Dominus Tyndour.
21 May 1422 - - - -	Dominus John Lythum.
7 June 1437 - - - -	William de Crankeshagh.
25 June 1442 - - - -	Richard Brown.
18 June 1469 - - - -	Dominus John Oxcliff.
Before 1519 - - - -	William Bretherton.
15— - - - -	Hugo Snede [or Sneyde].
1552 - - - - -	Sir Robert Clerke.
20 December 1552 - -	Randle or Ranulph Woodward.
1557 - - - - -	Richard Cropper.
6 November 1565 - -	William Wrightington.
1566-1681 - - - -	Richard Greenhall.
21 January 1581-1644 -	Peter White.
1644 - - - - -	Robert Freckleton.
16— - - - -	Peter White.
1653 - - - - -	Thomas Rigby, M.A.
16 December 1661 - -	George Shawe.
6 October 1674 - - -	Richard Harrison, B.A.
6 October 1714 - - -	Timothy Hall.
4 July 1726 - - - -	Robert Loxham.
28 November 1770 - -	Thomas Turner.

28 December 1810 - - Nathaniel Hinde.  
 14 July 1828 - - - Charles Hesketh.  
 12 September 1835 - - John Hull.  
 21 June 1864 - - - Thomas Clark.  
 1869 - - - - - William Richardson.

GAMELLO PRESBYTER DE PULTANE, time of Hen. I. (1100-35.)

This name occurs as a witness to a charter whereby Robert the abbot of Salisbury grants a carucate of land in Bispham to William, son of the daughter of Aschealla.<sup>1</sup>

RICHARD PARSON OF PULTON, about 1246.

This name appears as a witness to a charter, without date, whereby Richard de Pincerna de Warton granted land in Warton in Amounderness to the priory of St. John of Jerusalem ; one of the other witnesses was William, parson of Garstang,<sup>2</sup> who is named in a charter of William de Lancastre, whose *inq. post mort.* is dated 31 Hen. III. (1246-7). Richard de Pincerna died about the year 1284.<sup>3</sup>

ALANUS DE PULTON, 1275 (?).

A vicar was ordained in 1275,<sup>4</sup> who was probably the "Alanus de Pulton clerico" whose name appears as a witness to the charter (S.D.) of William de Merton, whereby he conferred a "selione" of land in Merton on the monastery of Stanlawe.<sup>5</sup>

SIR WILLIAM . . . . ., 1351.

This vicar of Pulton was ordered, 3 October, 1351, to repair the chancel of the church (see p. 38). At this time the "portion of the vicar antiently ordained" was excepted from the possessions of the Priory of Lancaster (see p. 39).

<sup>1</sup> *Sherburne Deeds*, in possession of J. Weld, Esq.

<sup>2</sup> Dodsworth MSS., lxx. fol. 97.

<sup>3</sup> Chet. Soc., vol. lxxxvi. p. 61.

<sup>4</sup> Register of Charters of Priory of Lancaster. *Harl. Bib.*, No. 3764.

<sup>5</sup> *Coucher Book of Whalley*, p. 446.

WILLIAM DE SOTHWORTHE, 13—.

This may possibly be identical with the last named vicar. From the *inq. post mort.* of Richard Skillicorne, which was taken at Wigan on 10 May, 27 Hen. VIII. (1535), it appears that William de Sothworthe held ten messuages in Preston, twelve messuages, three hundred acres of land, three hundred acres of pasture, forty acres of meadow, and a right of fishing in the Ribble at Newton near Kirkham, and that being so seised he had by deed (which was shown to the jurors) given the manor of Prees to Adam de Skilicorne and Alice his wife, including all the lands and tenements which he had received from the said Adam.<sup>1</sup> This Adam de Skilicorne was living in 1381.

WILLIAM DE CLAYTON, before 1396.

By *inquisitio post mortem* taken at Preston, 2 August, 1429, it appears that John de Thornewton died 2 October, 1396, and that at the time of his death he held half the manor of Thornewton, which he had from William de Clayton, late vicar of the church of Pulton.<sup>2</sup>

DOMINUS WILLIAM TYNDOUR, 1422.

He died in the year 1422.<sup>3</sup>

JOHN LYTHUM, 1422–37.

William Kynwoldmersh, the treasurer of England, by letters patent, had conveyed to him and others, by the priory of Lancaster, the advowson of Pulton, and on the death of William

<sup>1</sup> Record office.

<sup>2</sup> Chet. Soc., vol. xcix. p. 24.

<sup>3</sup> It is a common mistake to suppose that the institutions to livings in the diocese of Chester, previous to the foundation of that see, are preserved at Lichfield; such is not the case. Amounderness was in the archdeaconry of Richmond, and the only existing records of institutions, &c., for that district before 1541, are the following: Richmond registers preserved at Ripon, transcript of missing volume of Richmond registers in British Museum (*Harl. MS.*, 6978), and Torre's *MSS.* in the Cathedral library at York.



Tyndour he presented John Lythum "capellanus," who was<sup>1</sup> instituted 21 May, 1422.

WILLIAM DE CRANKESHAGH, 1437-42.

He was instituted 7 June, 1437, on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Syon. He was described as "Presbyter," and died in 1442.<sup>2</sup>

RICHARD BROWN, 1442-69.

"Dominus" Richard Brown, "Presbyter," was instituted 25 June, 1442, on the death of the last vicar; he was presented by the abbot and convent of Syon.<sup>3</sup> By charter, dated at Pulton the feast of St. Bartholomew the Apostle, 24 Hen. VI. (24 Aug., 1446), Thomas de Haryngton, son of James de Haryngton, knight, granted certain messuages and lands in Hoole Magna and Pulton Magna, to Richard Brown, vicar of Pulton, and Thomas Brown, "capellanus."<sup>4</sup> (See p. 11.)

By charter, dated Pulton, Monday after the feast of the Holy Trinity, 32 Hen. VI. (17 June, 1454), John Blackburne and John Crone, "capellani," leased to this vicar and Henry Huntington, lands in Pulton Magna for forty years, for which they were to pay for the first ten years a red rose at the nativity of John the Baptist, and for the remainder of the term 6s. a year.<sup>5</sup>

Sir John Butler, knight, by deed dated 4 July, 1458, granted the manor of Laton and his other lands to Sir Thomas Harynton, knight, Thomas de Dutton, Richard Brown, vicar of Pulton, and others.<sup>6</sup>

Sir John Botyller, knight, Thomas Massy, "parson of the church of Chepyngton," Richard Brown, vicar of Pulton, Richard Massy, and John Holcroft, by their charter, dated 1 November,

<sup>1</sup> Registers of archdeaconry of Richmond.

<sup>2</sup> Richmond registers, Ripon.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>4</sup> Deed in possession of J. Fitzherbert-Brockholes, Esq.

<sup>5</sup> Harland's MSS.

<sup>6</sup> *Inq. post mort.* John Botiller, also of William Botiller. (Chet. Soc., vol. xcix. pp. 73, 82.)

1461, granted to Richard Botyller, for good services rendered and an annual payment of five marks, all their lands, &c., in Burton Wood and Sankey Magna.<sup>1</sup>

From the above extracts it appears evident this vicar of Pulton was a man of means and position in the district. He died in 1469.

DOMINUS JOHN OXCLIFF, 1469.

Was instituted 18 June, 1469, on the death of Richard Brown. He was presented by the abbot and convent of Syon, and is described as "capellanus," and an order was at the same time issued to Christopher Ley of Lancaster, chaplain, to induct him.<sup>2</sup>

SIR WILLIAM BRETHERTON, 15—.

He probably succeeded John Oxcliff. Early in the 16th century, Elizabeth, the abbess of Syon, being the proprietor of the church, leased for a term of years a tenement, a kiln house, and the tithes of corn and sheaves in Pulton to Thomas Singleton; and Eleanor Singleton, the widow of Laurence Singleton, who afterwards, with the consent of Constance, abbess of Syon, leased the same to Sir William Bretherton, clerke, vicar of Pulton, in consideration of a payment of £3 6s. 8d., and a yearly rental of seven marks for the tithes, and £1 6s. 8d. for the tenement and kiln.<sup>3</sup> The various deeds concerning this transaction got into the hands of Eleanor Singleton and Constance Singleton, who refused to give them up, the result being a trial in the Duchy court, in which the plaintiffs were John Brockholes of Garstang and Richard Farynton of Kuerden, gentleman, who were the executors of William Bretherton, late vicar of Pulton. This took place in the time of Hen. VIII., but the exact date has not been preserved; it could not have been earlier than 1518, as that is the year in which Constance was elected abbess of Syon.

<sup>1</sup> Harland's MSS.

<sup>2</sup> Richmond registers, Ripon.

<sup>3</sup> *Duchy of Lanc. Pleadings*, vol. iv., No. 37 B, Hen. VIII. Record office, and Receiver's accounts, Hen. VIII., Chapter house, B 3, 9.

HUGO SNEDE [or SNEYDE], 15—.

To the will of George Alen of Roshall, dated 27 March, 1530, one of the witnesses was "Mr. Hugh Sneyde Bac. of Divinitie." The *Valor Ecclesiasticus* gives "Hugo Snede Incumbens," in 1535.

SIR ROBERT CLERKE, 1552.

He signed the return to the commissions appointed to give inventories of church goods, 18 March, 1552 (see p. 42). He was then assisted by a parish priest, Sir Henry Norton, who was still there in 1557. (See will of George Hull, chapter VII.)

RANULPH WOODWARD, 1552.

He was presented by Edward VI., and was instituted 20 Dec., 1552.<sup>1</sup> For payment of first fruits his sureties were William Gerarde of the "precincts" of Charter House, London, gentleman, and Robert Shawe of St. John street, London, brewer.<sup>2</sup>

This vicar was probably one of the Woodwardes of Shevington, in the parish of Standish; one of whom, Ralph Woodward, entered his pedigree at Dugdale's visitation in 1664-5.

RICHARD CROPPER, 155..-65.

The last vicar did not hold office long, as in 1557 Richard Cropper is named in the will of George Hull of Pulton as then vicar, and the same testator left xii<sup>d</sup> to Sir Richard Cropper. There is no record of his institution at Chester, his name appears as a witness to the will of Margaret Whiteside in 1562. He died in 1565 and the following is an extract of his will which was proved at Richmond:

In the name of God &c. . . . 2 October 1565. I Richard Cropper Clerke Vicar of Pulton sicke in body but hole in mynde of good & perfect remembraunce, &c. . . . my body to be buried within the pish church of Pulton in the highest chansell nere unto the Table.

<sup>1</sup> Bishop's registers, Chester.

<sup>2</sup> Exchequer accounts, First Fruits. Record office.

The following bequests are made, viz.:

To Hughe Byllynche of Lathum [Latham] & Richard Cropper the elder "of the same towne all my interest title &c. of and in all lands in Burstkow [Burscough] & Lathum and most specially the lands w<sup>ch</sup> I put in trust to be purchased by Hughe Raynforthe of . . . . . deceased." To Hugh Byllinge & Richard Cropper iiij<sup>li</sup>. To Jenet Mason my sister v<sup>li</sup> "w<sup>th</sup> one syde gowne." To James Cropper the younger xx<sup>d</sup>. To Ellyn and Margaret Walker daughters of George Walker "two little heffers w<sup>ch</sup> I have in my custody." To George Walker one "turfe wayne & one plowe w<sup>th</sup> yoke" and one close of land in the tenure of Rachal Taylor late wife of Thomas Taylor for two years at v<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> a year. To Richard son of Thomas Cropper vij<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>. To the children of Henry Cropper iiij<sup>li</sup>. To the wife of Simon Smythe xx<sup>s</sup>. To Margaret Walker one half of a close of land part of the tenement of William Bylbocke. To Ellen Walker one half of a close of land called Carre Meadowe for 7 years at v<sup>s</sup> per annum. To George Walker 1 acre of ground part of tenement of Thomas Bocker and a meadow part of tenement of Wm. Awarde. To Richard Cropper of Pulton "the which I have brought up in my house" one parcel of ground in the tenure of William Thomason and William Patson also a parcel of land in the holding of William Whyteside of Carlton. To the said Richard Cropper of Pulton all the rest of my goods and I appoint Hughe Byllinge my executor and Richard Cropper the elder to be overseer of my will.

To the will is appended a list of debts owing by, and money due to the testator, amongst the latter is:

- Item* Magister James Massy for the rent of Bispham Chapel for 7 years at - - - - - vj<sup>li</sup> vij<sup>s</sup>
- Item* Magister James Massy for the tythe of Stanynge Hall for 7 years - - - - - xlvj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>
- Item* Magister James Massy for the tythe of Carlton Hall for 3 years - - - - - xx<sup>s</sup>

Amongst the debts owing are "To the wife of Edmond Bamber xx<sup>s</sup>" and "to Magister Allen xij<sup>d</sup>."

WILLIAM WRIGHTINGTON, 1565-73.

Was instituted on presentation of John Fleetwood of Penwor-

tham, on 6 November, 1565.<sup>1</sup> By deed dated 12 July, 1557, the next presentation was sold by Thomas Fleetwood of Heskin, to John Fleetwood of Penwortham, John Wrightington of Standish, Richard Wrightington his son and heir, and Alexander Wrightington of Enfield.<sup>2</sup> No doubt this vicar was one of the Wrightingtons of Standish.

RICHARD GREENHALL, 1566-81.

Instituted 24 August, 1573, on the death of William Wrightington, on the presentation of Bridget Fleetwood, the widow of Thomas Fleetwood of Penwortham, and her son William Fleetwood.<sup>3</sup>

This vicar is doubtless the Sir Richard Greenhalgh who witnessed the will of Thomas Hodgson of Little Carleton in 1566.

PETER WHITE, 1581-2-1644.

He was admitted and instituted on 21 January, 1581-2,<sup>4</sup> on the presentation of Edward Fleetwood, *armiger*, and William Purson, yeoman. The heir of Thomas Fleetwood was Edmund Fleetwood, so that unless the above is a clerical error, Edward<sup>5</sup> being substituted for Edmund, the advowson must have passed (for this turn) to another branch of the family.

The parish registers commence in 1591, and from that time to 1629, Peter White's signature appears frequently at the foot of the page, to certify the correctness of the record. In 1605 a deed of sale of Singleton Grange, in Kirkham, was enrolled, whereby Sir Edward Brabazon, knight, sold the estate to Peter White, clerk, probably in trust, as the year following it again changed hands (see *History of Kirkham*, p. 186).

The Bishop of Chester, on 28 October, 1608, levied a rate upon the clergy of the diocese, for finding horses, arms, and furniture for military service; "Mr. Whyt, vicar of Poulton, and Mr.

<sup>1</sup> Bishop's registers, Chester.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>5</sup> Edmund and Edward were not infrequently, about this date, used for the same person.

Greenacres, vicar of Kirkham," between them furnished "one musket"; his name also appears as contributing, in 1619-20, to fund "for use of Count Palatine of Rhine," in 1634 for "repairs of St. Pauls," and in 1639 "to the King of Scots."<sup>1</sup>

The stone in the church, upon which is inscribed this vicar's name and the date 1622 (see p. 44), doubtless was intended to commemorate some addition to or alteration of the fabric, which was made through his instrumentality. From 1622 to 1624, there was a great mortality in Poulton, the deaths from November 1622 to April 1624 being 289; amongst the victims were the parish clerk and a son of the vicar's. In 1641, Peter White signed the "Protestation" (see p. 31), and in 1644 he, for some unexplained reason, resigned the vicarage in favour of his son-in-law.

ROBERT FRECKLETON, 1644-16—.

The first-fruits' records show that Robert Freckleton, clerk, was admitted and instituted 16 January, 1644, to the vicarage of Pulton, on the presentation of John Browne of Tyringe, in the county of Hertford. He was, from 1634 to 1637 (and possibly a little later), the officiating minister at Bispham, and whilst there he married (20 November, 1634,) Sarah, the daughter of Peter White. He held the vicarage a very short time, as he was living in Chester at the time of the siege of that city (in February, 1645-6) by the Parliamentary forces, and had his goods sequestered by the committee of sequestration for delinquency.<sup>2</sup> At that time, or shortly afterwards, he was appointed to the rectory of Backford in Cheshire, where, in 1646, he had the profits of the rectory conferred on him, with an additional £50 from the committee of plundered ministers. In 1648 he signed the "Attestation of Ministers" as "Minister of Backford."

On the formation of the Lancashire Presbyterian Classis (2 October, 1646), John Sumner of Poulton was one of the ministers

<sup>1</sup> MSS. of Bishop Bridgeman.

<sup>2</sup> *Church Surveys*. Record Society, vol. i. p. 218.

in the VII. Classis ; he, however, was not the vicar. In 1644 he was living in Bispham, where, in May of that year, a child of his was baptized ; he was described as "Mr. Sumner." Before coming to Bispham he had been minister of Samlesbury.

PETER WHITE, 16...-165..

As Peter White at the time his son-in-law was presented to the vicarage must have been at least eighty-five years old, it is somewhat strange that he should again have been appointed to the cure. Such, however, must have been the case. Probably the solution of the difficulty is that Robert Freckleton, although instituted and admitted, never in reality took upon himself the duties of his office, or if he did it was only for a very short time.

For the *Parliamentary Survey*, taken 21 June, 1650, the jurors reported that the "present Incumbent and Minister" at Poulton is "Mr. Peter White, formerly an able and painful minister, but now verie aged and infirme: the cure is supplied by Mr. John Brereley who hath noe allowance and incorragement"; this John Brereley in 1648 signs the "Harmonious Consent" as "preacher at Salford." Peter White did not live long after this, as his successor was here in November, 1653, if not before that date. The register from 1636 to 1654 being wanted, the record of his burial is missing. He must, however, have lived to be nearly a centenarian, and to have held the living longer than any other vicar before or since. A tenure of 62 years, a resignation and re-appointment render his case almost unique.

Peter White had issue: 1 Matthew, baptized 16 February, 1605, buried 11 July, 1623 ; 2 Erastus, baptized 8 May, 1608, buried 31 January, 1608-9 ; 3 Elizabeth, baptized 24 June, 1596, married 16 November, 1614, John Sanderson, junior, of Newton, she died September, 1620 ; they had issue, Robert and Marie. 4 Susanna, baptized 5 June, 1598, buried the 16th of the same month ; 5 Marie, baptized 8 May, 1599, buried 4 August, 1602 ; 6 Anne, baptized 4 October, 1601 ; 7 Dorothy, baptized 9 October, 1603, married February, 1620-1, to Peter Woodhouse

of Thornton, yeoman, and had issue ; 8 Jane, baptized 23 July, 1610 ; 9 Sara, baptized 16 October, 1614, married 20 November, 1634, Robert Freckleton, minister, Bispham, and vicar of Poulton (see p. 73), and had issue. On 27 October, 1659, was buried at Poulton, Constance White of Poulton, widow ; this may have been the vicar's widow. In 1605 there was baptized Grace, the daughter of Robert White of London. Thornber, in his *History of Blackpool*, asserts that after Peter White's death his family "fell into decay, his granddaughter frequenting Poulton fairs as the wife of a hawking pedlar"; as he left no male issue, and three of the daughters were respectably married, this is probably incorrect.

THOMAS RIGBY, M.A., 165..-1661.

This vicar of Poulton was the third son of Alexander Rigby of Burgh (see chapter VI.), where he was born about the year 1612. He was educated at the Sedbergh grammar school, in Yorkshire, and entered St. John's college, Cambridge, as a pensioner, 14 May, 1631, being then under 19 years of age ; he graduated B.A. 1634-5, M.A. 1638, and in 1639 he was elected a fellow of his college.<sup>1</sup> In June, 1650, the parliamentary church survey commissioners reported that at Broughton in Furness (Lancashire), "Mr. Thomas Rigby, Maister of Arts," officiated for the time being. How long he remained there is unknown, but before November, 1653, he was instituted vicar of Poulton, as in the registers for that month [the day of the month is torn away] is recorded the baptism of "Alexander, son of Mr. Thomas Rigby, Vicar."<sup>2</sup> He relinquished the living in 1661. His next appointment was, in all probability, to the curacy of St. Mary's, Donnybrook, near Dublin, which he vacated on being installed, on 1 July, 1663,<sup>3</sup> prebendary of Monmohenock, which was held in union with the rectory of Castledermot in the county Kildare.

<sup>1</sup> College books.

<sup>2</sup> The words "of Poulton" are torn away. In 1654 he is called "minister of Poulton."

<sup>3</sup> Cotton's *Fasti Ecclesie Hibernicae*.



In Dugdale's *Visitation*, 1664-5, he is described as "residing in Dublin, parson of St. Mary's church there"; at that time the only St. Mary's in or near Dublin was at Donnybrook.<sup>1</sup>

In 1673, Rigby resigned the prebendary stall, and subsequently all trace of him is lost. The Poulton registers furnish the baptism of two of his children, Alexander (named above) and Dorothy, baptized 26 November, 1654, and the burial of a son John on 5 May, 1655.

#### GEORGE SHAW, 1661-74

This vicar was one of the Shaws of High Bullhaghe, an old Lancashire family which recorded a pedigree at the visitation of 1664-5. Robert Shaw was appointed vicar of Cockerham in 1633;<sup>2</sup> he was twice married, his first wife (Esther) was buried at Cockerham 16 August, 1634; and he married secondly, at Stalmine, 15 May, 1636, Marie,<sup>3</sup> the daughter of Sir Paul Fleetwood of Rossall, by whom he had issue,<sup>4</sup> 1 George, of whom presently; 2 Robert, baptized at Cockerham, 4 November, 1639; 3 Laurence, who was vicar of Cockerham from 1662 to his death in 1695. George Shaw was born in or about the year 1638, but his baptism is not recorded at Cockerham. On 15 June, 1657, he matriculated at Queen's college, Oxford, as a servitor, but does not appear to have taken a degree. Soon after leaving the university, he was (in December, 1659) instituted vicar of Cockerham, which he held until April, 1662, when, having been nominated to Poulton, he resigned in favour of his brother Laurence. A memorandum in the parish registers of Poulton records that on "16 December, 1661, Mr. George Shawe was presented vicar and took quiet possession according to a legal

<sup>1</sup> The pedigree was entered by Thomas Rigby's nephew, who evidently did not know that his uncle had been installed prebendary.

<sup>2</sup> He was still at Cockerham in 1648, when he is party to an award (umpire). Original *MS.*

<sup>3</sup> The marriage portion consisted of several tenements in Preesall and Hackinsall. (*Excheq. Dep. by Com.*, 1657.)

<sup>4</sup> Probably other children, who died young.

forme," but the "first-fruits" returns give the 21 August, 1662, as the date of admission. The collector of the clerical subsidy for Amounderness, on 28 April, 1663, made a schedule of those who had "subscribed their free and voluntary presents to the kinges majesty and had not payd the same," *inter alia* was, "Mr. Robert Fisher late Vicar of Kirkham subscribed by proxie [for] one Mr. George Shaw Vicar of Poulton 5<sup>li</sup>, w<sup>ch</sup> being demanded Mr. Shaw denies that any commission was given by him for the said subscription."<sup>2</sup> There was no *Robert* Fisher vicar of Kirkham, but John Fisher held the appointment from 1650 to 1666. George Shaw was twice married, his first wife, Margaret, was buried at Poulton, 9 January, 1670-71, and he married, secondly, at Poulton, on 1 June, 1672, Margaret Bamber of the same place. He had issue by the first wife, Laurence, who was baptized 9 October, 1666, and Priscilla, baptized 11 June, 1663; by the second wife, Nathaniel, who was baptized 6 June, 1673. George Shaw died in July, 1674, and was buried at Poulton on the 13th of that month. The registers for 1667 contain the following, "September, Edwardus Hull clericus parochialis sepultus erat primo die mensis," which suggests the question, was the vicar non-resident, or was this a curate who administered to the spiritual wants of one of the outlying districts—probably Marton?

RICHARD HARRISON, B.A., 1674-1714

Richard Harrison was the eldest son of the Rev. Joseph Harrison of Newton-with-Scales in Kirkham, who was baptized 5 January, 1623-4, matriculating at St. Mary's Hall, Oxford, and afterwards became curate of Lund in Kirkham, from whence he was ejected in 1662 (see *History of Kirkham*). Richard, his son, was born 28 August, 1648, and baptized at Kirkham; he matriculated at Brasenose college, Oxford, 26 May, 1664, and he took his B.A. degree 23 January, 1667; his first curacy was at Brindle, under Henry Pigott, who held at once the rectory of

<sup>1</sup> *Clerical Subsidies*, No. 61/68, Record office.

Brindle and vicarage of Rochdale ; his next appointment was to the perpetual curacy of Goosnargh ; he was there from 1672 (perhaps earlier) until his institution to the vicarage of Poulton, on 6 October, 1674, to which he was nominated by Richard Fleetwood of Rossall, Esq.<sup>1</sup>

He was twice married, first at Lancaster, 7 December, 1669, to Anne, the daughter of Richard Shaw of Preston, who died 6 December, 1697, and to whose memory there is a brass plate in Poulton church (see p. 51) ; secondly, at Poulton, 12 October, 1699, to Elizabeth Stanley of the same place, who was buried there 9 May, 1708. He had the living for nearly forty years, and died 23 February, 1713-14, and was buried at Poulton.

His will, dated 19 February, 1713, was proved at Richmond, 27 March, 1714 ; it is short, and only contains the following bequests : " To his daughter, Anne Singleton, and his daughter-in-law, Alice Harrison, 21s. 6d. a piece. To his sister Margaret, 50s.; to her daughter, Janet Huson, 1s. To his servant, Anne Gant, £5, in case she continue in his service until his decease ; the rest of his estate, after debts and funeral expenses are paid, to his son, Joseph Harrison ; and he appoints Edward Veale of Whinney Heys, esquire, and John Alston of Poulton, school-master, to be executors."

The inventory amounts to £82 12s. 6d.

He had issue by the first wife only.

1. Joseph Harrison, baptized at Brindle 17 September, 1670, B.A. of Brasenose college, Oxford, rector of Daglingworth, in the county of Gloucester. He married Catherine, daughter of John Hitchins of Colesborne, in the county of Gloucester, 29 May, 1689 ; she died 29 August, 1733, and was buried in Cirencester church ; he died 28 November, 1753, and was buried in the same grave. He had issue five sons, the youngest of whom, Thomas Harrison, was knighted 22 November, 1752 ; he was the receiver general of land tax for Middlesex, and his grandson, George

<sup>1</sup> Pedigree in Herald's college (see *Mis. Genealog. et Heraldica*, vol. iv. p. 118), Bishop's registers, Chester, and College books.

Harrison, was also knighted 13 April, 1824; he was for many years assistant secretary to the treasury, and auditor of the Duchies of Cornwall and Lancaster; his grandson, Thomas Harrison, captain in royal artillery, who died 23 November, 1838, left several sons.

2. Benjamin Harrison, baptized at Goosnargh, Sept., 1673, and buried at Poulton, 15 May, 1681.

3. Jeffrey Harrison, baptized 11 March, 1674-5; buried at Poulton, 28 June following.

4. Benjamin Harrison, baptized at Poulton, 16 March, 1681-2, and buried there 6 June, 1687.

5. John Harrison, baptized at Poulton, 30 April, 1684, and buried there January, 1684-5.

6. Ann Harrison, baptized at Poulton, 23 July, 1676; she married . . . . Singleton, and was living in 1713-14.

7. Janet Harrison, baptized at Poulton, 14 March, 1679-80; she married . . . . Huson, and was living in 1713-14.

TIMOTHY HALL, 1714-26.

Timothy Hall, the son of Christopher Hall, curate of Stalmine (1672-1701), was baptized there 30 May, 1680.<sup>1</sup> He entered Brazenose college, Oxford, 21 December, 1699, and took his B.A. 15 June, 1703. On the nomination of Edward Fleetwood, he was instituted to the vicarage of Poulton 6 August, 1714.<sup>2</sup> Thomas Tyldesley of Fox Hall, in his *Diary*,<sup>3</sup> twice refers to this vicar: "1712, October 30, Wentt a fflowling with cos. Butler to Condr and all over Cockersand; Tepin with us: in our retorne found ye new marry<sup>d</sup> couple viz:—Cosin Marg<sup>t</sup> Fleetwood,<sup>4</sup> and Parson Robinson son, Merchant; they had with them Mrs. Roe and Mrs. Hall, Tim Hall, Tom Roe and a young parson broth<sup>r</sup> of ye marchant: I paid 6*d*.: wee dranke in the morning." Does the diarist by drinking in the morning mean that they drank "till

<sup>1</sup> His mother's christian name was Maria and he had two sisters baptized at Stalmine, Lydia 6 November, 1676-7, and Fleetwood 30 May, 1686.

<sup>2</sup> *First Fruits*.

<sup>3</sup> Edited by Mr. J. Gillow and A. Hewitson, Preston, 1873.

<sup>4</sup> Sister of Edward Fleetwood, the patron of Poulton church.

day-light did appear"? Under the date 11 September, he writes: "Went with cos. Butler, his son, younge Lord & Parson Hall as far as Dolphinhholme up Wire but ffound nothing; din<sup>d</sup> att Mr. Cawthornes spent 7<sup>d</sup>. at Neppy's [an Inn in Garstang]: soe to Kirkland." The "young lord" was Richard Butler of Rawcliffe. In 1717 Timothy Hall's name appears in the Bispham registers as a surrogate. He died in January, 1725-6, and was buried at Poulton on the 19th of that month, aged 44 years; his wife Ann was also buried at Poulton 10 July, 1718. The registers furnish the following baptisms of his children: Mary, October, 1715, and Samuel, July, 1717. He had also a son Richard, who was named in the will of Elizabeth fletewood of Rossall, in 1710, as "the son of my kinsman Timothy Hall Clerk." Timothy Hall left a will which was dated 19 December, 1725, by which he directed his debts to be paid "as far as his estate would amount," but if it would not be sufficient to pay his debts then they were to be discharged "share and share alike;" if anything was, however, left it was to be divided equally amongst his children. His executors were his kinsman John Cooban of Bryning, yeoman, Richard Smith of Carr End, yeoman, and John ffayle of Bridgend, yeoman, and the inventory amounted to £73 7s. 2d.

ROBERT LOXHAM, M.A., 1726-70.

Robert Loxham was the son of Edward Loxham and Alice his wife, of Kirkham, where he was baptized 30 September, 1689. He was no doubt a scholar of the Kirkham grammar school, and he entered Trinity college, Oxford, 16 April, 1709, where, in the college books, he signed his name "Robert Loxam." He graduated B.A. 14 October, 1712, M.A. 16 July, 1715. The records of the "thirty sworn men" of Kirkham show that in 1713 Edward Loxham was elected a "sworn man," and in the same year that body spent 2s. 6d. "on Mr. Loxham first time that he preached" there.<sup>1</sup> At this time he probably was curate of Kirkham.

<sup>1</sup> *History of Kirkham*, p. 110.

His first preferment was to the rectory of Workington, in the county of Cumberland, to which he was instituted 3 December, 1724;<sup>1</sup> he only remained here until 1726, his successor being instituted 7 August in that year.

He was instituted 4 July, 1726, to the vicarage of Poulton, on the nomination of Edward Fleetwood of Rossall.<sup>2</sup> For some unknown reason he resigned the living 6 April, 1749, but on 28 April in that year he was re-instituted, and held the appointment until his death on 13 June, 1770, aged 80. He was buried at Kirkham,<sup>3</sup> where in the churchyard is a tombstone inscribed :

Hic  
Juxta Paternos cineres  
Suos recondi jussit  
Robertus Loxham A.M.  
Ecclesiæ Poultoniensis Vicarius.  
Qui  
Die Junii 13<sup>o</sup> Anno D<sup>ni</sup> 1770  
Ætat 80 decessit.  
Concionatos erat laudabilis  
Et oviumquos Christus ei commendasset,  
Custos assiduus fidusque.  
Adjacet  
Quicquid mortale Anne uxoris  
prædicti Roberti Loxham  
Quæ  
conjus amabilis mater benigna  
omnibus spectata erat  
Flebilis obiit 26 September A.D. 1774  
Ætat suæ 72.

Robert Loxham had issue : 1 Edward, born in 1723, and died at Ormskirk, 29 April, 1798, leaving issue a son Robert, who

<sup>1</sup> Bishop's registers, Chester.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> For some years before his death he was probably non-resident, the duties being performed by his curate, James Birkett, who married (at Poulton) 7 June, 1768, Alice, the daughter of Robert Fishwick of Poulton.

married his cousin Anne, daughter of Richard Loxham, and had issue a son, who died young, and two daughters. 2 Richard, born in 1724, B.A. of Emmanuel college, Cambridge, rector of Stickney in Lincolnshire, where he died 15 September, 1785, aged 61. He had issue Robert, also rector of Stickney; Richard, rector of Halsall, in the county of Lincoln; and Anne, who, as already stated, married her cousin Robert. 3 Ralph, buried at Poulton in November, 1726. 4 Robert, baptized at Poulton, 13 October, 1727; he was subsequently of Cornhill, London, and Woodfield, Essex, and died in 1802, *s.p.* 5 William, born at Poulton in November, 1732; he married Mary, the daughter of the Rev. Samuel Sidebotham, rector of Middleton in Lancashire. He died in 17—, and had issue a daughter. 6 Thomas, baptized at Poulton, 2 June, 1736; he settled in Manchester, where he married Ann Robinson; he was buried at Trinity chapel, Salford, and had issue, (a) Richard, attorney-at-law, died 1815, *s.p.*; (b) Robert, who married Elizabeth, the daughter of Samuel Peake, and had issue, the Rev. Richard Loxham of Great Lever, and the Rev. Thomas Loxham, rector of Great Lever; and (c) three daughters.

#### THOMAS TURNER, B.A., 1770–1810.

Of this vicar little is known. Tradition says that on leaving the university he became a chaplain in the army. In July, 1768, and perhaps earlier, he was officiating at Poulton as curate,<sup>1</sup> having previously been curate of Bradford in Yorkshire,<sup>2</sup> and on the death of Robert Loxham he is said to have purchased the presentation to the living for a sum of £200, and was accordingly nominated by Robert Wilbraham Bootle, Thomas Hunt, and Robert Moss, esquires, with the consent of Frances Hesketh, widow, the patroness, and was instituted 28 November, 1770.

Thomas Turner was vicar for over 40 years, he died in Nov., 1810, aged 74 years, and was buried at Poulton on the 8th of that month, his funeral being, it is said, the last one which (in

<sup>1</sup> Parish registers.

<sup>2</sup> Bishop's registers, Chester.

conformity with an old custom) was conducted at night by torch-light; on these occasions each householder illuminated his windows with candles. For many years he was master of the free school. (Baines.) As far as the registers record he had issue: Mary, baptized March, 1769, buried in June, 1778; Elizabeth, baptized December, 1771, and married — Jolly of Skerton, near Lancaster, and had issue. His wife Mary was buried at Poulton in June, 1778.

NATHANIEL HINDE, 1810-28.

Nathaniel Hinde was the son of John Hinde of London, gentleman, and entered St. Mary's college, Oxford, 17 March, 1780, aged 23 years;<sup>1</sup> in the same year he left the university and married. In 1816 he was admitted to St. Mary's college, Oxford, when he took his LL.B. His first curacy was probably somewhere in the neighbourhood of Chester, as in that city his son Henry was born in 1780 or 1781. He was presented to the vicarage of Shifnal in Shropshire on 7 November, 1794, which he resigned in 1811, but was re-appointed in the same year, and held the living until his death; he was also rector Kingswinford in Staffordshire. He appears to have been a pluralist of the most objectionable type, as it is difficult to discover where he did live: at Shifnal he was such an absentee that old inhabitants say that "the bells were set ringing when the news of his death arrived."<sup>2</sup> A portion of his income (from that living) was appropriated to an officiating curate. At one time, probably soon after he left college, he was tutor to one of the Hesketh family, and his only daughter, Sophia, married, in February, 1798, Sir Thomas Dalrymple Hesketh of Rufford, Bart., and had issue. He had (at least) one son, Henry, who matriculated from Brasenose college in 1797.

Nathaniel Hinde died in 1831.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> College Books.

<sup>2</sup> *The Salopian and West Midland Illustrative Journal*, vol. ix p. 43.

<sup>3</sup> All efforts have been unavailing to discover where he died or what became of his son or sons.



## CHARLES HESKETH, M.A., 1828–35.

Charles Hesketh was the youngest son of Robert Hesketh of Wennington hall, Melling, Esq., and brother to Sir Peter Hesketh of Fleetwood; he was born 15 March, 1804, and was baptized at Melling. He entered Trinity college, Oxford, 25 May, 1822, where he graduated B.A. 1827, and M.A. 1830. He was ordained in 1828, and the same year (on 24 July), on the cessation of Nathaniel Hindle, he was instituted to the vicarage of Poulton, and in 1831 he was also appointed perpetual curate of Bispham. For some years he held both the cures, living at Bispham lodge, and employing a curate who lived at Poulton.

In 1835, in accordance with his father's will, he resigned the vicarage of Poulton and was instituted rector of North Meols, which he held for forty-one years. He vacated the curacy of Bispham in 1836. In 1850 he was appointed rural dean and proctor of convocation for the archdeaconry of Liverpool. Through the exertion of Charles Hesketh, many of the churches in Southport and district were built—All Saints' church being erected at his sole cost. To Southport he gave the land for Hesketh park, and his name was associated with every charity in the town. He died 15 July, 1876, aged 72, and was buried in the family vault at North Meols. He married Anna Maria Alice, only daughter of Richard Saunders of Wennington hall, Esq., and had issue, Charles Fleetwood (died in infancy), Edward Fleetwood, Anna Maria Emily Fleetwood, Adelaide Fleetwood, Debonnaire Fleetwood, and Caroline Sumner Fleetwood (deceased).

## JOHN HULL, 1835–64.

The grandfather of this vicar was John Hull, who is described in the registers as an "apothecary" of Poulton. He married Grace (*née* Aspinall), the widow of the Rev. Roger Freckleton, perpetual curate of Bispham; he died in March, 1768, and was buried at Poulton. He had issue, 1 John (of whom hereafter);

2 Richard, who was born in July, 1763, and buried at Poulton June, 1805, aged 42, and left no issue ; 3 James, born in August, 1765, and died without issue.

John Hull, the eldest son of John Hull the apothecary, was born 30 September, 1761, and was baptized at Poulton. He was apprenticed to Mr. Lancaster, surgeon, of Blackburn, and afterwards, in March, 1782, went to London, where, having completed his medical training, he returned to Blackburn and entered into partnership with Mr. Lancaster ; in 1796 he removed to Manchester, where he had an extensive practice ; he retired from his profession in 1838, and returned to his native town.<sup>1</sup> He was a distinguished botanist, and the author of *Elements of Botany*, 2 vols., 1800 ; the *British Flora, or a systematic arrangement of British Plants*, 2 vols., 1808, and other works. He married, in 1792, Sarah, the second daughter of William Winstanley of Woodcock hall, in the township of Cuerden, Esq. He died 22 March, 1843, and was buried at Poulton (see tablet, p. 56). He had issue :

1. William Winstanley Hull, born 15 March, 1794, at Blackburn. He was made a fellow of Brazenose college, Oxford. For some years he practised at the Chancery bar, but retired from the profession in 1846. He married, 27 December, 1820, Frances, the daughter of Benjamin Wilson of Ardwick, Esq. He was the author of *An enquiry concerning the means and expediency of proposing and making any changes in the Canons, Articles and Liturgy, or in any of the laws affecting the interests of the Church of England*. Oxford and London, 1828. *A statement of some reasons for continuing to Protestants the whole legislature of Great Britain and Ireland*. Oxford and London, 1829. And other works. (See *Manchester School Register*, vol. iii. pt. i. p. 37.) He died 28 August, 1873 (see p. 55). He had issue (a) William Wilson Hull, born 18 November, 1822, died 1 September, 1848 (see p. 55) ; (b) John Winstanley Hull, vicar of North Muskhams ; (c) Peter

<sup>1</sup> See *Manchester School Register*, vol. iii. pt. i. p. 36, for notice of Dr. John Hull.

Winstanley Hull ; (d) Henry Mitchell Hull, died 2 November, 1853 (see p. 56) ; (e) Sarah, died 9 March, 1842 (see p. 55).

2. John Hull, of whom presently.

3. Sarah Hull, who died unmarried, and was buried at Poulton, December, 1805.

4. Jane Hull, who died in 1807, aged 14 years.

John Hull, the second son of John Hull, M.D., of Manchester, was a scholar of the Manchester grammar school, and removed from thence to Eton ; he graduated at Brasenose college, Oxford, B.A. 21 October, 1823, and M.A. 23 February, 1826. After being ordained he held curacies in Croston and Lancaster, and in 1835 he was presented to the vicarage of Poulton. By the late bishop of Manchester he was appointed an honorary canon of the Cathedral, and to the office of rural dean. In 1863 he resigned the vicarage of Poulton on his appointment to the rectory of Eaglesfield, Durham, where he now lives. He is the author of a *Manual for a Sunday School Teacher*, and, conjointly with his brother William, of *Observations on a petition for the revision of the Liturgy*, 1840.<sup>1</sup>

#### THOMAS CLARK, 1864-9.

Thomas Clark was the son of Thomas Clark of Burton-on-Trent, timber merchant. He was educated at Oakham in the county of Rutland ; he graduated from Queen's college, Cambridge A.B. in 1820 and M.A. 1829. His curacy was at Preston under the Rev. Canon Carus Wilson, vicar. He held this appointment for seven years, when he was appointed incumbent of Christ church, Preston, which he resigned, after 30 years service, to become the vicar of Poulton, to which he was instituted 21 June, 1864. Thomas Clark married Miss Louisa Gregson of Liverpool. He died 27 March, 1869, and was buried at Poulton (see tablet, p. 51), aged 64 years. Mr. Clark will long be remembered at Preston and Poulton as a man of gentle kindness and unassum-

<sup>1</sup> *Man. & Chet. Register*, Chet. Soc., vol. xciii. p. 90.

ing generosity. The chancel of Poulton church was erected at his cost. He left issue one son, the Rev. Thomas Clark of Clifton, Bristol, and two daughters, one of whom married the Rev. Raywood Firth, who succeeded his father-in-law as incumbent of Christ church, Preston ; and the other married the Rev. C. N. Hardingham, vicar of Goxhill, Yorkshire.

THE REV. WILLIAM RICHARDSON, M.A., 1869.

The present vicar.

## CHAPTER IV.

THE CHURCHWARDENS AND THE PARISH  
REGISTERS.

## THE CHURCHWARDENS' RECORDS.

THE early churchwardens' accounts have not been preserved, the existing book only bearing date 1708, and there is a long gap between 1710 and 1761. On the fly-leaf of the earliest book of register is the following note :

" Memorandum. That ye ix day of December, in the year 1623, it is generallic considered agreed and set down, by Thomas Singleton, of Staining, Esqr., and the rest of the Parishioners, and other inhabitants, together with the churchwardens and Four-and-Twentie Men of the Parish of Pulton, and Peter White, the Vicar of Pulton, that at the motion, instance, and mind of the said Peter White, Thomas Dickson, the younger, son<sup>1</sup> of Thomas Dickson, late clerk of Pulton, deceased, be clerk of the Parish of Pulton aforesaid, and shall do, exercise, and perform, or cause to be well and sufficiently done, exercised, and performed, all the duty, office, and services thereof, and shall have, receive, take, and enjoy, all and singular the salaries, wages, dues, profits, commodities, customs, privileges, and rights due, or in anywise appertaining or belonging, to the said clerkship, or which have usually been paid, had, and received therewith in anywise. In witness of this our appointment, order, and election, we have subscribed our names, the day and year first above written.

Thomas Singleton,      Peter White,  
Roger Sherburn,  
James Taylor,

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Dickson, the elder, appointed 1616 (see p. 89).

Wm. Hodgson,  
Robt. Greene,  
George Hardman,  
Robt. Lythome,  
Robt. More,

} Churchwardens.

24 Men.

John Durhame, John Ashton, Robert Crone, Rd. Gaulter, Rich. Hardman, Thoms Whiteside, Henry Whiteside, Thoms Hobson, Thoms Hull, Thomas Gornall, Rich. Whiteside, John Hall, John Davie, John Hoggard, Thomas Davie, Wm. Swarsbreck, Richard Davie, John Bamber, Wm. Hull."

Mem.— "That I, Thomas Dickson, did enter upon the clerkship of Pulton, the 28th day of March, 1623."

The first complete entry in the churchwardens' books under the year 1708 is :

"Whereas at a General Meeting of the Vicar, Churchwardens & twenty four men of this pish of Poulton it is ordered and agreed, that the sum of Thirty & Seven Pounds & ten shillings shall be assessed & collected within our said pish for the repairs of the Church & other necessarys relating thereto for the year 1708.

Richard Harrison, Vicar.

Will<sup>m</sup> Sharp,  
William Cookson,  
William Grimbaldston,  
John Wilson,  
Rich<sup>d</sup> Hodgson,

} Churchwardens.

24 Men.

John Boydell × his mark.

Tho<sup>s</sup> Storey × his mark."

Similar orders follow in 1709 and 1710, from which it appears that there was formerly a kind of parochial governing body, consisting of twenty-four representatives of each of the various townships in the parish, who doubtless exercised a similar authority to that which was vested in the "sworn men" of Kirkham, Goos-

nargh, and other places in Amounderness.<sup>1</sup> From the parish registers the following imperfect list of churchwardens has been compiled :

- A. D.  
 1600 Wiff Peteson, Tho<sup>s</sup> Salthouse, John Sanderson, Rich. Dawson, Will<sup>m</sup> Bomber.  
 1603 Ruffe. Hull, John Nickson, Rich. Harrison, Robt. Haule, Ric. White.  
 1607 Jo. Kirkham, W<sup>m</sup> Compste, George Durram, Cuthbert Leetham, Henry Whiteside.  
 1608 Joh. Pearson, Henry Whiteside, Tho<sup>s</sup> Thorneton, George Durram.  
 1609 Thomas Richardson, Robert Awarde, James Tinckler, William Moore.  
 1610 Tho<sup>s</sup> Porter, Thomas Richardson, Robt. Awardes, James Tinckler, William Moore.  
 1611 Nichus Porter, Robert Awarde, James Tinckler, William Moore. . . . .  
 1615 Joh. Heganson, Will. Bickerstaffe, Hughe Hull, Joh. Whiteside, Will. Gaulter.  
 1616 Rich. Jenkinson, Rich. Silcocke, Edward Tubman, W<sup>m</sup> Whiteside, W<sup>m</sup> Tinckler.  
 1617 John Whiteside, Tho<sup>s</sup> More, Hughe Hull, John Kirkham, W<sup>m</sup> Wylde.  
 1618 Joh. Whiteside, Tho<sup>s</sup> More, Hugh Hull, John Kirkham, W<sup>m</sup> Wylde.  
 1619 Joh. Woodhouse, Rich<sup>d</sup> Silcocke, John Hodgson, W<sup>m</sup> Hodgson, Ric. ffelcher.  
 1620 Rich. Walshe, Thomas Whiteside, John Crone, Ric<sup>d</sup> Harrison, Laurence Pye.  
 1621 John Porter, John Kirkham, Rawlin Anion, Tho<sup>s</sup> Bis-browne, Jas. Jackson.  
 1623 W<sup>m</sup> Hodgson, Rob<sup>t</sup> Greene, George Hardman, Rob<sup>t</sup> More, Rob<sup>t</sup> Lytham.

<sup>1</sup> See *Histories of Goosnargh and Kirkham.*

- 1624 Rich<sup>d</sup> Jenkenson, Tho<sup>s</sup> Brickell, Richard Butler, Robert Butcher, John William.  
 1625 Thomas Shaw, Ja. Silcock, Tho. Bamber, Jo. Daire, John Butcher.  
 1626 Tho<sup>s</sup> Shawe, Ja. Silcocke, John Daire, Tho<sup>s</sup> Bamber, Jo. Butcher.  
 1628 Award Jenkenson, W<sup>m</sup> More, W<sup>m</sup> Garlicke, Robert Hull, John Breckell.

After this year the churchwardens do not sign the registers.

In the churchwardens' account book for 1761 is a note of "Persons in nomination to serve the office of Churchwardens for the parish church of Poulton for the year 1761 and appointed by me Robert Loxham Vicar of Poulton," from which it appears that three from each township were nominated. From the fifteen so nominated the vicar selected five for the office; the fifteen names were selected by the retiring churchwardens. This was the custom in 1722, and is mentioned by Bishop Gastrell.<sup>1</sup> The parish clerk was chosen by the heir of Staining hall.<sup>2</sup>

EXTRACTS FROM CHURCHWARDENS' ACCOUNTS.

		£	s.	d.
1764	July 8, To a bottle of wine to a strange Parson	0	2	6
1765	June 6, „ M <sup>r</sup> Loimas for mending clock.....	0	2	2
	„ Aug. 18, „ Thomas Parkinson for Rushes .....	0	6	8
	„ Oct. 20, „ M <sup>r</sup> Loxham for a Prayer .....	0	0	2
	„ Dec. 25, Spent receiving Bassoon .....	0	1	6
	„ „ To Clark in full for Wages .....	4	0	0
	„ „ „ Singers in full .....	0	12	6
1766	Sep. 15, „ Rushes for church .....	0	6	8
1767	May 13, Churchwardens expenses at Preston ...	1	7	5
	„ „ Curat's horse hire to do. ...	0	2	6
	„ July 20, To Reeds for Bassoon .....	0	4	6
1769	Feb. 1, „ a new Prayer Book.....	1	1	5

<sup>1</sup> *Notitia Cestriensis*, vol. ii. part iii. p. 458.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*



1769	Mar. 27,	„	Cash [spent] w <sup>th</sup> Marton Parson ...	o	5	5
„	„	27,	Received by Miss Hesketh's burial in the Church .....	o	3	4
1771	Aug. 18,		Spent when Parson Hull preached.....	o	4	6
1774	July 4,	„	on Parson Eckleston and another strange Parson, one red pray <sup>rs</sup> and the other preached .....	o	3	6
1775	May 6,	To	W <sup>m</sup> Brown for Ale for Rich <sup>d</sup> Rossall whilst he was altering Pulpit and at settling his acct. ....	o	3	o
„	June 30,		Spent on Marton Singers.....	o	10	o
„	Oct. 4,	„	St. Laurence's Singers.....	o	18	4
1781, July 14. It is agreed this day among the Parishioners of the several Townships of Poulton that all charges of organ & organist for the Parish Church of Poulton, shall not be defrayed hereafter by any Tax levied on the Parish in general but by voluntary subscription only.						
1782	Feb.		Rec <sup>d</sup> for M <sup>r</sup> Brockhole's burial in the Church .....	o	3	4
1793	Dec. 8,	To	cash rec <sup>d</sup> for digging a grave in the Church for M <sup>rs</sup> Buck .....	o	3	4
„	Nov. 5,		Spent on Singers .....	o	12	6
„	„	„	Ribbons for Girls .....	o	2	o
1805	June 9,	To	Exp <sup>s</sup> to Church Town when John Santer, Clerk, convicted himself in getting drunk and Timothy Swar- brick for making him drunk (when they were fined each 5s.) .....	o	1	6

This volume contains a list of churchwardens from 1761 to present year.

#### THE PARISH REGISTERS.

The earlier registers of this parish were a few years ago in a very dilapidated state, the second and third volumes having suffered most from the ravages of time and neglect. The first

volume, being written on parchment (the others are on paper), had fared the best ; the others being, in some cases, literally in tatters. Through the instrumentality of the present vicar and the late Mr. Thornber of Poulton the whole have been repaired and rebound.

The earliest registers begin : Christenings, 3 January, 1591 ; marriages, 8 October, 1592 ; and burials, 20 July, 1592.

## EXTRACTS FROM POULTON REGISTER.

CHRISTNINGES ANO<sup>o</sup> DNI. 1591.

## Januarie.

John filius Richard Crokoe de Marton Magna, <sup>1</sup>	iiij <sup>o</sup>
Alice filia Anthonii Garlicke et Margareti Silcorke,	iiij <sup>o</sup>
Margerie filia Lawrent ffayrecloughe de Stayninge,	v <sup>o</sup>
Alice filia Robte Crone de Narmosse,	xix <sup>o</sup>

## ffebuarie.

Issabell filia Edward Whiteside et Margerie Moore,	ix <sup>o</sup>
Ellin filia Johis Woodhouse de Thorneton,	xj <sup>o</sup>

## March.

Thoms filius Johis Hull de Holmes señ,	vj <sup>o</sup>
Ellin filia Roberti Hall de Marton eodem,	
Robte filius Thome Whiteside de Poulton,	vij <sup>o</sup>
Jenett filia Radulphi Eccleston de Poulton,	xij <sup>o</sup>
Margerett filia Lawran <sup>d</sup> Galter de Carleton,	xiiij <sup>o</sup>
Peter fil Wifmi Caloe et Jenett Rowlinson,	xiiij <sup>o</sup>
Agnes filia Robti Jackson,	xv <sup>o</sup>
Wifm filius Richardi Hodgeson,	xvij <sup>o</sup>

[The above is an exact copy of all the entries for 1591.]

ANO<sup>o</sup> DNI 1592.

## Julie.

Henrie filius Richardi Welshe,	xix <sup>o</sup>
Jenett filia Johis Pip de Marton,	xxvj <sup>o</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The first entry.

September.	
John filius Johis Butcher de M <sup>o</sup> ton juñ,	xvii <sup>o</sup>
Wiffm filius Johis Carter de Hamelton eodem.	
Henrie filius Nicholai Gaskell,	v <sup>o</sup>
Tho <sup>m</sup> s filius Tho. Gudlawe geh <sup>o</sup> o <sup>o</sup> ,	xii <sup>o</sup>
Ellin filia Edward Pateson de Singleton, <sup>1</sup>	xxvi <sup>o</sup>
October.	
Issabell filia Wiffmi Breckell de Holmes,	xv <sup>o</sup>
Wiffm filius Jacobi Tinkeler de Holmes,	xxx
November.	
Agnes filia Richardi Harison,	iv <sup>o</sup>
Elline filia Johis Rabie de Poulton,	xxj <sup>o</sup>
December.	
Robte filius Johis Crone de Poulton pua,	xvii <sup>o</sup>
Elizabeth filia Jacobi Holme de Holmes,	xxvii <sup>o</sup>
Elizabeth filia Tho. Moore de Newton,	xxxj <sup>o</sup>
J <sup>h</sup> uarie.	
Tho <sup>m</sup> s filius Johis Lyhome juñ de Staynoe,	v <sup>o</sup>
John filius Johis Person de Mosse Side,	xiv <sup>o</sup>
ffebuarie.	
Richard filius Johis ffisher de M <sup>o</sup> ton,	xvj <sup>o</sup>
Marche.	
John filius Johis Broune de Poolefoote,	xij <sup>o</sup>
Aprill 1593.	
Robte filius Jacobi Sandson juñ de M <sup>o</sup> ton,	v <sup>o</sup>
Maie.	
John filius Tho. Hardman juñ de Hardhorne,	xxvj <sup>o</sup>
Julii.	
John filius Robi Smythson de Trunall,	xvii <sup>o</sup>
September.	
Tho <sup>m</sup> s filius Georgiei Hull de Moore,	ij <sup>o</sup>
Elizabeth filia X <sup>o</sup> poferi Hull de Trunnall,	vii <sup>o</sup>

<sup>1</sup> From the large number of entries from Singleton, it is evident that the chapel there was disused. (See *Hist. of Kirkham*, p. 46.)

November.	
John filius Henri <sup>2</sup> Davie de Bisphame pva,	xxvj <sup>o</sup>
December.	
John filius Wiſſmi Hoggarde de Holmes,	xvj <sup>o</sup>
februarie.	
Agnes filia Wiſſmi Tinkeler de Banke Hall,	xij <sup>o</sup>
Peter filius Johiſ Woodhowse de Thorneton,	xvj <sup>o</sup>
Roger filius Lawren <sup>2</sup> Wrenall de Singleton,	xvij <sup>o</sup>
1594.	
Maie.	
Wiſſm filius Johiſ Balie de Ouldfielcarre,	xix <sup>o</sup>
June.	
Richarde filius Robti ffisher de Pile,	xx <sup>o</sup>
Julie.	
Margarett filia Ri <sup>2</sup> Balie de Poulton smythe,	xxvj <sup>o</sup>
Auguste.	
Alice filia Tho. Almonde de Maynes,	iv <sup>o</sup>
September.	
Thom̄s filius Johiſ Laythwhate de Singleton pva,	xiv <sup>o</sup>
John filius Ri <sup>2</sup> Baylie de Normosse,	xxxj <sup>o</sup>
Januarie.	
Margarett filia Robti Smythe de Maynes,	vj <sup>o</sup>
Agnes filia Xpoferi Hull de Trunnall,	xiv <sup>o</sup>
Wiſſm sonne <sup>1</sup> of John Hodgeson Pitch <sup>2</sup> ,	xx <sup>o</sup>
Thoms filius Jacobi Bullar,	xxx <sup>o</sup>
februarie.	
Wiſſm filius Johiſ Hodgeson de Laton,	xxiv <sup>o</sup>
1595.	
Aprill.	
John filius Robti Swarbrecke,	iiij <sup>o</sup>
Agnes filia Johiſ Pereson de Whitt Gate,	xxiiij <sup>o</sup>
Maie.	
Peter filius Georgii Hull de Moore,	iv <sup>o</sup>
Thom̄s filius Jacobi Teylior de Banckefeilde,	v <sup>o</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Occasionally the English word is used.

June.	
John filius Antonii Salthowse de Thorneton,	iiij <sup>o</sup>
Julie.	
ffulke filius Tho. Sherburne,	xix <sup>o</sup>
Elizabeth filia Johiſ Butcher de Water Milne,	xxix <sup>o</sup>
Auguste.	
Robte filius Edw Rowe de Narmosse,	xxiiij <sup>o</sup>
November.	
John filius Robti Jarvas et Alice fforshawe,	iiij <sup>o</sup>
Januarie.	
Margarett filia Wiſſmi Kirkhame de Old Filde Carre,	xv <sup>o</sup>
Ellis filius Ri <sup>d</sup> ffayle de Maynes,	xviij <sup>o</sup>
Ellin filia Johiſ Baylie de Moore,	xxviij <sup>o</sup>
ffebuarie.	
John filius Wiſſmi Browne paup,	xv <sup>o</sup>
Marche.	
James filius Tho. Bickerſtaffe de Poulton M'chant,	ij <sup>o</sup>
Lawrence filius Wiſſmi Lawson de Singleton Grange,	vij <sup>o</sup>
1596.	
Aprill.	
George filius Edward Wilde de Hayome,	xiiij <sup>o</sup>
Maie.	
Jenett filia Tho. Hull de Breigbutts,	xxj <sup>o</sup>
November.	
Jenett filia Ri <sup>d</sup> Warbrecke de Whitt Gate,	viiij <sup>o</sup>
Agnes filia Johiſ Nickeson de Poulton,	xxix <sup>o</sup>
ffebuarie.	
George filius Johiſ Hey de Poulton,	vj <sup>o</sup>
1597.	
Marche.	
Richarde filius Tho. Almande de Maynes,	xxviij <sup>o</sup>
Aprill.	
Jenett filia Johiſ Hodgeson de Midoppnooke,	xix <sup>o</sup>
Maie.	
John filius Edm <sup>d</sup> ffletwoode esquire,	viiij <sup>o</sup>
Clarence filia Laurent <sup>t</sup> ffayrecloughe,	xxx <sup>o</sup>

June.	
Petrus filius Johis Walkden cleric,	xij <sup>o</sup>
Richarde filius Georgii Hull de Moore eod.	
Jane filia Edwardi Veale gen <sup>o</sup> , Ann filia Tho. Hardman de Rytherhome,	xvij <sup>o</sup> xxvj <sup>o</sup>
Marche.	
George filius Tho. Adameson de Thorneton, 1598.	xv <sup>o</sup>
Aprill.	
Peter filius Petri Woodhowse de Thorneton,	xxiiij <sup>o</sup>
June.	
Margarett filia Hugonis Grymballson,	xxiiiij <sup>o</sup>
Auguste.	
Agnes filia Robti Ramell de Poulton,	xxviiij <sup>o</sup>
September.	
Robte filius Georgii Durhame de Poulton,	xxix <sup>o</sup>
Marche.	
Henrie filius Lauren <sup>o</sup> Whiteside de pua M'ton, James filius Ric <sup>o</sup> Warbrecke Rysecarre,	xij <sup>o</sup> xxj <sup>o</sup>
1599.	
Auguste.	
Thom̄s filius Johis Wilkinson de Laton Rakes, John sone of John Butchr ju <sup>n</sup> de M'ton, Jenett filia Johis Butchr sen <sup>n</sup> de M'ton. eod.	iiij <sup>o</sup> xij <sup>o</sup>
October.	
Johan'es filius Johis Walkden cleric, ffebruarie.	vij <sup>o</sup>
Margarett filia Wiffmi Whynerawe, Aprill An <sup>o</sup> 1600.	xxiiij <sup>o</sup>
Susanna filia Robti Brair de Polton, Ellin filia Tho. Langley de Poulton gen <sup>n</sup> ,	xxvij <sup>o</sup> xxvj <sup>o</sup>
September.	
Johes filius Georgi Harrobin de Stainingc.	
December.	
Elizabeth filia Georgi Allen,	xvj <sup>o</sup>
	o

February.

Peter the sonne of John Rabie of Great Pulton bapt. xvij<sup>o</sup>  
1601.

October.

Robte sonne of Robte Breckill of the Holmes bapt. the xxv<sup>o</sup>  
December.

John the sonne of John Walshe of Pulton bapt. the first daie.

Henrie sonne of Nicus Portor of Little Pulton bapt. xxix<sup>o</sup>

Januarie.

Thom̄s sonne of X<sup>p</sup>ofer Hull of Carlton bapt. the xv<sup>o</sup>  
1603.

Aprill.

Thom̄s. sonne of Lawrance Bisbrowne of Pulton bapt. xvij<sup>o</sup>  
September.

Mary daughter of Willm̄ Pextonns. Clarke of Poulton bapt. the viij<sup>o</sup>  
1604.

September.

Arthure sonne of James Hull sonne of Raphe Hull of Thornton  
Rakes. iijj<sup>o</sup>

Janurie.

Jenett daughter of George Sidgreues of Elswick bapt. the xxvj<sup>o</sup>  
1605.

Maie.

Elizabeth daughter of Richard Belie of Grene Poulton bapt. xij<sup>o</sup>  
July.

Grace doughter of Robte Whitt of London bapt. the xiiij<sup>o</sup>  
September.

Trynytye daughter of Willm̄ Pextons of Poulton the x<sup>o</sup>  
1606.

Aprill.

James sonne of X<sup>p</sup>ofer Hull of Norcrosse bap. the xiv<sup>o</sup>  
September.

Margarett doughter of James Hull of the Moore bapt. iij<sup>o</sup>  
December.

Robte sonne of John Gaule of Norcrosse bapt. the xvij<sup>o</sup>

1607.

Maie.

Richard sonne of Edmund Reyley of Plumpton bapt. the x<sup>o</sup>  
Julii.

Christian daughter of Willm Pextonns of Pulton bapt. the v<sup>o</sup>  
October.

Barnabie sonne of Lisach Oconor of Stainnge Hull the xvij<sup>o</sup>  
1607.

December.

Anne daughter of Gabriell Tildeslay schoalem<sup>r</sup>, xix<sup>o</sup>  
ffebuarie.

Elizabeth daughter of John Talier of Poulton Greene, v<sup>o</sup>  
Aprill.

Willm sonne X'pofer Houll of Norcrosse bapt. the xj<sup>o</sup>  
1610.

December.

Ellin daughter of John Talier jun<sup>r</sup> of the Greene in Poulton, xxj<sup>o</sup>  
ffebuarie.

Robte sonne of John Talier the elder of Poulton Greene bapt. the  
second.

1612.

Aprill.

John sonne of Peter Doughty of Tronno, the xiiij<sup>o</sup>

At the foot of the page of Register for 1614 is the following:  
(m<sup>r</sup>. that I Thomas Dicksonn did enter upon the clarksipp of  
Pu<sup>r</sup> the xxviiij<sup>th</sup> of March Anno dñi 1616.)

1616.

October.

Willm the sonne of Nicholas Skillicorne of Skippoll bapt. the xiv<sup>o</sup>  
1618.

October.

John sonne of Nicholas Skillicorne of Skippoole bapt. the xj<sup>o</sup>

Richard sonne of Willm Ryley of Little Marton bapt. the xviiij<sup>o</sup>

Luke the sonne of Thom<sup>s</sup> Dickson pish clarke of Pulton bapt. the  
same day.



1620.

februarie.

Margerett daughter Willme Steele of Skippoole haberdasher bapt.  
the xiv<sup>o</sup>

1623.

Aprill.

John sonne of Thomas Heardson gentleman bapt. the xvij<sup>o</sup>

1627.

August.

Elizabeth doughter of Martin Goose of Toderstaff baptised, xxix<sup>o</sup>

1628.

Año 1592.

October.

Jenett doughter of Martin Goose of Toderstaff baptised the  
xviii<sup>o</sup> day

1629.

December.

Roger son of Martin Goose of Toderstaff baptised, xiiij<sup>o</sup>

March.

Ann doughter of Edward Wick of Marton schoolemaster was  
baptized the vj<sup>o</sup> day

This volume of Registers ends in April 1638, and the baptisms  
are wanting until August 1653.

[Continuation of Baptisms, see pp. 106 and 110.]

## MARRIAGES.

October.

Thomas Hardman & Isabell ffisher,

viij<sup>o</sup>

Henrie Daire & Margarette Wilde,

xxix<sup>o</sup>

November.

Robte Lythome & Alice Jackson,

v<sup>o</sup>

John ffancis & Anne Crone vid.,

viiij<sup>o</sup>

John Lythome & Alice Kirkhame,

xxx<sup>o</sup>

December.

Witlm Wilcocke & Isabell Ramell,

iiij<sup>o</sup>

Hughe Moore & Margarette Hull,

x<sup>o</sup>

Januarie, 1592.

Robte Crokoe & Margaret Gilchrste,      xxiiij<sup>o</sup>

Robte Smythson & Elizabeth Whynerawe,      xxix<sup>o</sup>

The above is a verbatim copy of the register for 1592.

Auguste, 1593.

Henrie Whiteside & Alice Porter,      v<sup>o</sup>

December.

Wifm Braithwhatt & Ellin Laitwhatt,      x<sup>o</sup>

ffebuarie, 1594-5.

Thomas Dagger & Ellen Hull,      ix<sup>o</sup>

June, 1595.

John Anion & Jenett Hull,      xxix<sup>o</sup>

November, 1597.

Robte Hogyarde & Jane Thorneton,      xxvij<sup>o</sup>

June, 1598.

John Daire & Margerett Silcocke,      xxij<sup>o</sup>

September, 1599.

Robte Steryaker & Jane Awards vid.,      xxij<sup>o</sup>

October, 1600.

Laurence Bisbrowne & Margaret Belie,      xj<sup>o</sup>

October, 1601.

Richard Burrowes<sup>1</sup> & Bridgett fletwood,      xx<sup>o</sup>

ffebuarie, 1602-3.

Lancelot Eccleston & Margaret Lythom,      xiiij<sup>th</sup>

John Awarde of Hambleton & Jenet Hull of the ffield, xxvij<sup>th</sup>

October, 1604.

George Hull of Carlton and Jane late wieffe of Robt Steryekar  
were maried, ij<sup>th</sup>

June, 1606.

Martin Goose of Grinall & Alice ffarthoughe were maried the  
xxix<sup>th</sup>

June, 1607.

Gabriell Tildesley and Margaret Hodson both of Pulton, xvij<sup>th</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This should be Burgh, as all the authorities agree that Bridget Fleetwood married Richard Burgh of Larbrick.

Julie, 1608.

John Whiteside of the Peele in Marton & Margaret ffisher of Thornton married, iiij.

Maij, 1609.

John Garlice and Jenet ffrance of Poulton were married the first day.

December, 1611.

James Doughty of Stalmin and Agnes Smithson of Thuronne were married the iij<sup>o</sup>

August, 1612.

Alexander Smithson and Margaret Whytsyde were married the xxv<sup>o</sup>

Decembr, 1615.

James Braye and Agnes Bamber were married the xj<sup>o</sup>

Aprill, 1616.

Thomas Alman of the pishe of Plumpton and Bridgett Bailye of this pishe were married the xxv<sup>o</sup>

ffebuarie, 1616-17.

Thomas Hull of the Breribute w<sup>th</sup>in Thornton widower & Ellen Durhame of Grett Pulton widowe were married the xv<sup>o</sup>

Aprill, 1627.

Lawrence Singleton of the Chapellrie of Bispham & Ellin Hodgsonne of the Holmes were married the xxv<sup>o</sup>

August, 1630.

Robte Croune of The More and Jane Award of Litle Pulton married the xxiv<sup>o</sup>

ffebuarie, 1630-31.

George Windross of the Chapellrie of Bispham & Jennett More of Norcross married the iij<sup>o</sup>

1634, November.

Robert ffreckleton of Bispham minister and Sarah White of Pulton were married the xx<sup>th</sup> daij.

1634-5, ffebuarie.

Tho. Dicksonn clarke of Poolton and Elizabeth Silcock of Hardhorne married the ix<sup>th</sup> day.

[Continuation of Marriages, see pp. 107 and 111.]

The first volume of marriages ends in January, 1637-8.

BURIALS.

Julie, Anō Dni 1592.	
John Galter de Moore End,	xx <sup>o</sup>
Infans Georgij Hikanson de Poulton,	xxv <sup>o</sup> <sup>1</sup>
Auguste.	
John filia Johis Whynerawe,	xxxj <sup>o</sup>
September.	
Infans Henrič Hall de M'ton,	ij <sup>o</sup>
Agnes Ux. Tho Hardman,	vii <sup>o</sup>
October.	
Thōms filius Georgii Crane de Narmosse,	xvj <sup>o</sup>
Thōms Kellet de Carleton Hall,	xxv <sup>o</sup>
November.	
Alice filia Georgii Singleton armig <sup>o</sup> ,	xv <sup>o</sup>
Alice filia Edmund Bamber,	xx <sup>o</sup>
December.	
Ux. X'poferi Wilande de Poulton,	xxiv <sup>o</sup>
1693, Maie.	
John filius Georgii ffreckleton,	xx <sup>o</sup>
Julie.	
Robte filius Tho. Bickerstaffe de Skippull,	ix <sup>o</sup>
1593.	
Auguste.	
Agnes Ux. Willm. Whiteside de Grene,	x <sup>o</sup>
Willm. Tompson de Singleton Grange,	xxix <sup>o</sup>
September.	
Willm. Silcocke de Hardherne bachelor,	xix <sup>o</sup>
November.	
Robte Smythe de Insula Manœ,	xxix <sup>o</sup>
1594, Maie.	
Thōms filius Laurent Almande,	xxix <sup>o</sup>
October.	
John Rostrell de Singleton grange,	xiv <sup>o</sup>

<sup>1</sup> These are the first entries in the register.

November.		
Issabell Hodgeson de Poole foote vid,		ix <sup>o</sup>
Thom̄s filius Georgii Hull de Moore,		xxvj <sup>o</sup>
1595, Julie.		
Anne filia Nicholai Porter,		xxj <sup>o</sup>
September.		
George filius Edwardi Wilde de Hayome,		xvj <sup>o</sup>
Richarde Hesketh gent,		xj <sup>o</sup>
March, 1595-6.		
Alice Hey de Cumtley vid,		xviiij <sup>o</sup>
Aprill, 1596.		
Margarett Carter de Poulton spinster,		xxviiij <sup>o</sup>
Maie.		
Franchis Metecalfē peregrina,		xj <sup>o</sup>
1597.		
Marche.		
John filius Johis Reyley,		xvj <sup>o</sup>
Thom̄s Browne de Poulton milner,		xxix <sup>o</sup>
Maie.		
George Hull de Moore,		xxiv <sup>o</sup>
Wittm. filius Johis Woodhouse,		xxvj <sup>o</sup>
Julie.		
Issabell u <sup>x</sup> Tho. Lythame de Todderstaffe,		xxij <sup>o</sup>
October.		
Thom̄s filius Tho. Lythame de Todderstaffe,		xxv <sup>o</sup>
Marche, 1597-8.		
Thomas quidam vagus,		iiiij <sup>o</sup>
Aprill, 1599.		
John Hodgeson de Carlton pva geños,		xxj <sup>o</sup>
Aprill, 1600.		
Agnes Stenzeker soror Robti Ste <sup>r</sup> zek <sup>r</sup> ,		xxv <sup>o</sup>
1600-1, ffebruarie.		
Richard sonne of Richard Bamber of the Water Mylne of Great Marton, iiij <sup>th</sup>		
Aprill, 1602.		
Pauper quidam sepultis, ij <sup>th</sup>		

Julie.

Agnes the daughter of George Allen of Pulton buried the first daie.

Februarye, 1603-4.

Ellen doughter of Hugh Hull sonne of Raffe Hull of Thornton the viij<sup>th</sup>

1604-5, March.

X'pöfer sonne of Thom̄s Dayson of Rippon in Yorkeshire the xx<sup>th</sup>

1605, Julye.

Elizabeth Reyley widow of Great Poulton buried, xix<sup>th</sup>

1605-6, Januarie.

Roger Sherbourne of Great Pulton buried the ij<sup>nd</sup>

1608.

August.

Peter sonne of Richard ffisher of Poulton buried the first day.

[The Register shows a great increase in the death-rate in 1622-24.] The volume ends 30th May, 1636, and the registers are then wanting until 1653.

In the second volume of the registers the baptisms begin February, 1653; burials December, 1654, and marriages (of which there are very few) April, 1654. On the fly leaf is the following memorandum of the appointment of registrar :

"These are to certify all whom it may concern that upon election made by the inhabitants of the parish of Pulton, in the County of Lancaster, of Thomas Dickson, of Pulton aforesaid, yeoman, to be register of Pulton aforesaid, according to the Act of Edward, 24th of August last past, 1553, I do, therefore, according to the terms of the said Act, allow of him, the said Thomas Dickson, to be register for the said parish of Pulton, and have administered the Oath of Register to him, In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name, the 22nd day of September, 1653.

(Signed) Edward Rawstrone."

"Mem.

"That the old Registry Book was delivered into the hands

of the said Thomas Dickson the time above said." [A line or two are here torn and defaced.]

# BIRTHS AND CHRISTINGS.

March, 1653.

Elizabeth daughter of Thomas Hardman of The Holmes was baptised the viij<sup>th</sup>

1653, October.

Richard sonne of Robte Albin of Thornton Rakes baptised ix<sup>th</sup> day.

Novemb.

Alexander sonne of Mr. Tho. Rigby vicar of [Poulton] was baptized the . . . .<sup>1</sup>

December.

Richard son of Tho. Silcocke of Hardhorne skinner baptized viij<sup>th</sup> day.

May, 1654.

Jane daughter of Rutland Anyen of the Holmes baptised the xvij<sup>th</sup>

1655.

Julii.

Thoms son of John Hodgson of Tronnall pieman baptized xv<sup>th</sup> day.

1654.

September.

Patricke sonn of Daniell Allann of Whitholme was baptized 3 Sept.

1655.

December.

Ann the daughter of Henri Pike of Litle Pulton baptized 23 Dec.

1655-6.

March.

Christofer & Williams sones of William Hull of Riskar was baptized xxiiij<sup>th</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The early parts of these registers are much worn, but have been carefully repaired.

1656.

June.

Ellis sonn of William Harisen of Stayning was borne xix<sup>th</sup> day.

October.

Thomas sonne of John Singleton of Carleton pedler borne the x<sup>th</sup>  
Jane daughter of Luke Warbreck of Four lanes ends was borne  
the xxvj<sup>th</sup> day.

1658.

Julie.

Jennet daughter off Edward Hull of Pulton clarke was borne the  
xix<sup>th</sup> day.

BURIALS.

December 1654.

George the sonn of Tho. Wild of Litle Carleton was buried the  
xxx<sup>th</sup>

Januarii, 1654-5.

Mathew sonn of Richard Hull of the ffeelde w<sup>thin</sup> Thornton  
was buried the vij<sup>th</sup> day.

1655.

June.

Elling wife of Thom̄s Whitesid of the Whin Dicke w<sup>thin</sup> Marton  
buried the xix<sup>th</sup> day.

September.

A still borne childe of John Pearson of Marton was buried the  
ij<sup>nd</sup> day.

1655-6.

March.

Thomas Dickson of Pulton clark was buried the 4<sup>th</sup> daii.

[Continuation of Burials, see p. 110.]

Registers of burials in this volume end in 6 September, 1663.<sup>1</sup>

“MARRIAGES AND PUBLICATIONS.”

1654, Aprill.

Richard ffayle of the Normoss w<sup>thin</sup> the pishe of Pulton and

<sup>1</sup> This volume of registers, like the previous one, contains many entries referring to Singleton.



Jennett daughter of Robte Bamber late of Laton in the  
 pishe of Bispham was published three seŭall Lord's Days  
 beginning the second day.

Maii.

John Anyon of the Holmes w<sup>th</sup>in this pishe & Ellin Reade wi<sup>th</sup>  
 of the pishe of Mitton was published three seŭall Lord's  
 days the first bublication (*sic*) was the vij<sup>th</sup> day.

June.

Robte Hull and Alice Wilde abouēsd. were mariēd by M<sup>r</sup>ter  
 Ambrose before the Maior of Preston, M<sup>r</sup>ter<sup>9</sup> ffruthe the  
 third day.

1655.

Auguste.

John Whiteside of the Ould ffeeld carr and Elinor Awards of  
 Hardhorne was published three seŭall Lord's days in our  
 pishe church the ffirst publication was the ffift day.

1656.

Aprill.

Mathew Boydell of Thornton and Ellenn Dobson of Skipoll was  
 published three seuerall Lordes dayes in our parish church  
 the last publication was the vj<sup>th</sup> day, and they were married  
 before the justices the xj<sup>th</sup> day.

1656, March.

John Hodgson of Carleton husbandman & Elizabeth Hull of  
 Thorneton spinster were published three seuerall Lordes  
 dayes in our parish church of Pulton viz : the nynth day  
 of March the twentic therd of March & the thertieth of  
 March all last past by me Edward Hull and the mariage  
 between the before said parties were solemnised at Barton  
 Hall the 13<sup>th</sup> of May before me.

1656, Aprill.

Hugh Singleton of Carleton husbandman and Margaret Lawson  
 of the same towne spinster were published two seuerall  
 Lords dayes & one market day in our parish church &

market of Pulton viz. the twentie first day of Aprill the twentie seauenth of Aprill & the fourth day of May last past by me Edward Hull & the mariage beetween the before said pties was solleminsed at Barton Hall the 13<sup>th</sup> day of May before me.

1662.

July.

Henery Thornton & Jennet Hall married ye xvij<sup>th</sup> day,

“Wedings with licanse.”<sup>1</sup>

1661.

Rich Browne of ffreckleton & Margret Whitsid of 4 Lane ends married by M<sup>r</sup> Sherburne the 3 of ffbruarie.

Willm Osbiston of Houlmes & Agnes Hull was married<sup>2</sup> by M<sup>r</sup> Shaw at or about the . . . .

[Continuation of Marriages, see p. 111.]

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At the end of this volume are the following :

March 24<sup>th</sup>, 1660.

Collected ffor Thomas Vry the sume two shillings fflower pence.

March 31<sup>st</sup>

Collected ffor the poore people in S<sup>t</sup> Barthollamew Exchange London the sume of seauen shillings two pence.

May the 21.

Collected ffor Elimster the sume of one pound and six pence.

Aprill 27, 1662.

Collected ffor John Dekrino Kriansky myn<sup>ist</sup> of God's word debetie (beputy?) of the nitianell senod of the protestant churches in ye great dukdome of Lythuania the sume of twelue shillings nyne pence.

Collected in our parish church of Pulton ffor a church the 8<sup>th</sup> of May 1662 the sum of 4<sup>s</sup> 2<sup>d</sup>

<sup>1</sup> There are only eight of these recorded.

<sup>2</sup> Between April, 1654, and May, 1663, there are only recorded fifty-five marriages.

Volume three of the registers contains baptisms from February, 1663, to December, 1677 ; burials November, 1663, to January, 1677 ; and marriages from April, 1664, to March, 1668.<sup>1</sup>

## BAPTISMS.

March, 1663-4.

Ales daughter of John Breckell of Houlmes great.

Richard's John called the . . . . vj<sup>th</sup>

Aprill, 1664.

Alexander sone of John Moore of Hardhorne milnor was crised  
xxvij<sup>th</sup> day.

October.

Myles son of Richard Cardwell of Ould ffeeld carr was crised the  
xxiij<sup>rd</sup> day.

November.

Jane daughter of Richard ffarshaw of Pooltan Greene was christ-  
ned the xiiij<sup>th</sup> day.

1665-6, february.

Peter son of William Fisher of Houlmes milnor was crsned xj<sup>th</sup>  
day.

November, 1667.

Lislie daughter of Peter ffisher of Singleton was crised the first  
day.

Robert sonne of William ffisher of Thorneton was crised the  
xv<sup>th</sup> day.

## BURIALL.

November, 1663.

Bridget Coweban of Marshside within Carleton was buried the  
v<sup>th</sup> day.

1663-4, January.

Prudence Smithson of Gerdshege within Carleton was buried vij<sup>th</sup>  
day.

Aprill, 1664.

Elizabeth daughter of Mr. Thomas Hunter of the towne of Pool-  
ton was buried the first day.

<sup>1</sup> This volume also contains many entries referring to Singleton.

January, 1664-5.

Henery Hull John Hebson both of Houlmes w<sup>ch</sup> was lost in their boat was buried the v<sup>th</sup> day.

Sep<sup>ber</sup>, 1667.

Eduardus Hull<sup>1</sup> clericus parochialis sepultus erat primo die mensis Sepb<sup>ris</sup>

1666, December.

Ellizabeth daughter off Master Stanlay off Eckleston was buried the xij<sup>th</sup> day.

August, 1668.

Thomas Hunter of Poulton was buried the xv<sup>th</sup> day.

1674-5, March.

John Sykes off Poulton pyper was buried the xxij<sup>th</sup> day.

1675, May.

George ffaylle of Maines who dyed at Moore was buried the vij<sup>th</sup> day.

June.

Bernard sonn off Thomas Roe off Ireland was buried the xvij<sup>th</sup> day.

October.

James sonn of John Sturciyarr of Poulton schoolemaster buried the xxiiij<sup>th</sup> day.

Nouember.

Jenett wife of Lawrence Parkinson of Hales Hall within Racklaffe was buried the first day.

**MARRIAGES.**

1666, May.

James Warrington of Little Singleton & Isabell Swarbrecke of this towne was married the first day.

1666-7, January.

Peter Fisher of Little Singleton & Ellin Sherslay of Pooleton was married the xv<sup>th</sup> day.

<sup>1</sup> Edward Hull was appointed registrar 19 March, 1655, this may possibly be the same.

February.

Gefferie Woodes of Houlmes & Margret Hull of Carleton was married the v<sup>th</sup> day.

1672-3, January.

John Crookall of Peelle within Marton and Ann Stayth of High Moore were married ye vij day.

1676, November.

Lawrance Coweborne of ffreckleton & Ellin ffreckleton of same were married ye vij<sup>th</sup> day.

In the end of the volume are the following memoranda :

Sept. 12 <sup>th</sup> , 1668.		£	s.	d.
Collection gathered for Richard Hinscton in the county of Cambridg ffor burninge all houses barns and all that he had		-	-	00 01 08 <sup>1</sup>
For Poole in Montgomery	- - - -	00	01	08
„ Worksop in Nottinghamshire	- - - -	00	01	08
February, 1668-9.				
„ the town of Hanwell in Suffolk within the space of five hours burned all houses barnes stables	- - - - -	00	05	06
March, 1668-9.				
„ the burnin of London-	- - - - -	00	04	02
Given to widow Wentworth a poore distressed woman which came of the ile of Wales		00	01	06
October.				
For the town of Brockton in Staffordshire-	-	00	06	06
„ Robert Prescot blacksmith of Blageburne Hundered which lost all he had by fire		00	07	07
„ Ralph Nuttall of Boulton cariar which was visited with a greate sicknesse & lost above 20 horses	- - - - -	00	05	06
„ the town of “Yoram” in the county of York		00	05	10

<sup>1</sup> The others follow the same form of words, but the substance only is quoted.

For town of "Beccles" in Suffolk -	-	-	00	01	00
„ ye suger backers in London -	-	-	00	02	00
„ the town of Bulkington in Warwickshire <sup>1</sup>	...	...	...	...	...

Volume four of the registers contains baptisms from February, 1677, to March, 1713; burials from January, 1677, to November, 1682; and marriages from January, 1677, to July, 1713. Marriages for 1680, 1681, and 1682 are wanting.

VOL. IV.—BAPTISMS.

August, 1679.

Mary daughter of Thomas Harrison of Grange within Singleton was bapt. the xv<sup>th</sup> day.

May, 1683.

Jane daught<sup>r</sup> of ffrancis Bayliffe a gold smith of this town was bapt. ye vj day.

May, 1682.

Ann daughter of Mr Ed<sup>m</sup> Horneby of this towne was bapt. the viij day.

January, 1684-5.

Jane daughter of Geo. Hodgson of this toune, stationer was bapt. ye xj day.

December, 1683.

Willm son of John Wilkinson of Layton Rakes within the chaplrey of Bispham bapt. ye ij day.

Aprill, 1684.

Jeffrey son of Mr Edmund Horneby of this towne bapt. the xij

August, 1687.

John son of Thomas Ireland of Thornton Rakes Weaver, baptized the xxviij.

Septenber, 1690.

Willm son of Christopher Nuttall of Swarbreck hall bapt. vij day.

<sup>1</sup> In 1757, December 25, was "collected from house to house" 17s. 8½d. for the fortification of Sussex; 1764, December 27, for Hail-storm in Kent £1 7s. 6d.; 1765, November 20, for Lytham church 12s. 10½d.

## BURIALS

1678 May . . . sonn of Thomas Westby of Burne Hall esq. was buried the viij<sup>th</sup> day.

1678, June.

Easter Tildslay of Pooleton was buried the xxvij<sup>th</sup> day.

1678, November.

Millison wife of Nickholes Rosall of Carleton was buried the xvj<sup>th</sup> day.

October, 1679.

John Mackher of Bellikinder in Jreland was buried the xvij<sup>th</sup> day.

## MARRIAGES

January, 1677.

John Kirkham of the old field carr and Jane Silcocke of Pooleton greene were maried y<sup>e</sup> xxv<sup>th</sup> day.

October, 1679.

Ric Bisbrowne of Thorneton and Mercy Kindsley of Chorley was maried the vij day.

August, 1692.

Rich. Hodgson and Margret Bray both of Carleton were three times asked<sup>1</sup> and maried the xxij.

<sup>1</sup> The publication of the banns are entered now very frequently.

## CHAPTER V.

## THE PUBLIC CHARITIES.

## CARLETON SCHOOL.

THE founder of this school was Elizabeth Wilson of Whit-holme in Carleton, who, by her nuncupative will, made 22 September, 1680, declared her mind to be that a fourth of her goods should be invested in land, and the profit therefrom to be used by the overseers of Carleton to educate as many of the poor of the township as they should think fit. And it appears by indenture dated 17 May, 1697, that Richard Singleton, in consideration of £16 (the proceeds of the sale of the goods above-named), conveyed to trustees a close of land in Bispham called Carr Hey for the purposes already named.<sup>1</sup>

Another benefactor to this school was William Bamber (see chap. VI.) of Carleton, yeoman, who, by will dated 13 October, 1688, bequeathed "£40 to be for ever disposed of for the benefit & advantage of the poor inhabitants & poor children within that part of Carleton called Great Carleton Side." For this purpose he desired that "Richard Harrison clerk vicar of Poulton and Margaret Bamber" his wife, should after his decease "let out the said sum at interest at the rate of 12 pence by the pound, or purchase land at the clear yearly rental of 40s., the issue yearly to be paid to such of the poor inhabitants as they in their discretion shall think most needful ; and 20s. towards buying of books or paying school wages." He directs that after the death of his wife and the vicar, the churchwardens for the township of Carleton should be the

<sup>1</sup> Charity Com. Report, 1815 35.



trustees, and that "any difference which may arise be referred to all the churchwardens of the whole parish." He leaves 1s. 6d. to every child he is god-father to, and 40s. to the vicar.

With this bequest, in May, 1689, a messuage in Blackpool, a barn and lands called the Old Yard, the Great Field, the Croft, the New Hay, the Two Carrs, and the Great Meadows, containing six and a half acres, were purchased.

Shortly after this the inhabitants of the township built a school on the waste land called Four Lane Ends, belonging to Sir Nicholas Sherburne, who then held the manor, and who, by deed dated 31 December, 1697, granted the same to certain trustees for 500 years, at an annual rent charge of 1s., on the condition that the same should only be used for education of children, and that Sir Nicholas and his heirs should have the liberty to hold their manorial courts in the school.<sup>1</sup>

Margaret Bickerstaffe of Carleton, widow, whose will was proved in 1716, bequeathed £20 for the education of the poor in Carleton, and subsequently, from donors whose names are unrecorded, £62 was given for the same purpose. In 1777 other lands were purchased, the income from which brought the total income up to £22 18s. a year.

#### THE FREE SCHOOL.

##### (POULTON AND HARDHORNE-WITH-NEWTON.)

Of James Baines, the founder of this and other charities in Poulton, very little is known except from the meagre details furnished by his will, which is a very long one but is almost entirely confined to the disposal of his property for charitable purposes, the only allusion to his family being: "Item I give unto my kinsman John Baines son of Francis Baines late of Goosnargh now deceased and to Agnes Baines and Jennet Baines sisters of the said John Baines and to my cousin John Hemer who now lives with me to each of them the sum of Two Hundred

<sup>1</sup> Charity Com. Report, 1815-35.

Pounds to be paid unto them severally and respectively when and as they shall severally attain the age of twenty one years. Item unto my cousin James Hemer the further sum of thirty Pounds to be employed in binding him out as an apprentice or otherwise for his advantage to my cousin Anne Hemer £100 to my cousin Thomas Knowles £20, and to my sister Dorothy the like sum, to my kinsmen Richard Curwen and Robert Curwen either of them £50, to the grandchildren of my kinswomen Jenet wife of John Thornton of Rosiker £40." To his cousin Elizabeth Hemer he left his house and shop in Poulton and certain lands.

James Baines is variously described; in 1706 he is called "Woollen chapman," in his will he is "Gentleman," and in the parish registers "Yeoman." He died 9 January, 1717, and was buried at Poulton. His will is dated 6 January, 1717, and he was then "aged, infirm in body and out of health." By this will he devised to Richard Wilson, Richard Whitehead the elder, Richard Johnson, and Richard Thornton, all of Hardhorne-in-Newton, yeomen, and Richard Dickson of Poulton, woollen draper, Samuel Bird, yeoman, of Poulton, and Thomas Salthouse of Staining, yeoman, and their heirs or trustees, all that schoolhouse by him lately built in Hardhorne-cum-Newton, and the land on which it stood, the same to be a free school for ever, also a messuage and tenement called Puddle House, the rents of which were to be used to repair the building and provide a salary for the the schoolmaster, also a sum of 10s. for an annual dinner for the trustees.

In 1824 the rent of Puddle House was £69 a year. On the wall of the present building is a stone inscribed: "This Charity School was founded and endowed by Mr. James Baines of Poulton, who died the 9 January, 1717. Rebuilt 1828." The lands originally left by the founder have been exchanged for other lands, the exchange being considered an advantageous one for the school.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The trustees also manage the "Jenkinson's Charity," the origin of which is unknown, but it consists of a house and land, and the rent ensuing therefrom is spent in purchase of books, &c., for the school.

There was a school in Poulton (and also in Marton) long before the erection of Mr. Baines' school; the parish registers contain the names of John Sturzacker, schoolmaster of Poulton in 1675, and Thomas Grimbaldeston, who occupied that post from 1686 to 1692 or later; in 1703 a John Bain was schoolmaster. On 8 March, 1717, Henry Bird was appointed master.<sup>2</sup>

This school has recently undergone some modification under the charity commission.

#### MARTON SCHOOL.

The parish registers for 6 March, 1629-30, contain the baptism of "Ann, daughter of Edward Wick of Marton, Schoolmaster," but there is no record of any school being erected until one was built by James Baines, shortly before his death in 1717, and who, by the will before named, devised it and the land it stood on to John Hull of Marton Green, John Bamber the elder of the middle town, Edward Wylde of Cow Gap, Richard Moor of the Moss-side, John Warbreck of the White-gate, and William Bamber, all of the township of Marton, yeomen, and George Bennet of Marton, yeoman, and their heirs in trust, for a free school for ever; and he endowed the same with a messuage and eight acres of land in Warbrecke, and a messuage and lands in Hardhorne-with-Newton, to the intent that the income therefrom (except 10s. a year for a dinner for the trustees) should be employed for the payment of a master and the needful repairs of the building. At this date John Clarkson was the master, he subscribed to the oath, at that time required, on his appointment 8 March, 1717.<sup>1</sup>

About the year 1850 the funds of this school were greatly reduced through a chancery suit. The school property now consists of 40 acres of land which yields about £130 a year.

#### THORNTON SCHOOL.

This is another of Baines' foundations, the first trustees of which were Peter Woodhouse, Robert Hull, junior, Thomas Wylde

<sup>1</sup> Bishop's registers, Chester.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

of Trunnall, Robert Hodgson of Trunnall, all of the township of Thornton, yeomen, Thomas Hodgson the younger of Thornton, carpenter, Robert Hall of Thornton and James Bickerstaffe of Trunnall, yeomen, and their heirs.

The school was built during testator's life, and by his will he bequeathed it to the above trustees, together with twenty-one acres of land, the rent of which was to be employed for maintaining a free school. At the beginning of this century the school was rebuilt and enlarged, and endowed with an additional £500 left by Mr. Simpson.

On the 8 March, 1717, John Dobson of Thornton was appointed master.<sup>1</sup> On 4 June, 1743, James Fisher, clerk, was nominated<sup>2</sup>; he resigned the situation in 1755. This James Fisher was married at Poulton, October, 1749, to Isabel Rigg, he was afterwards curate of St Thomas's Church, Garstang, and later vicar of that parish. His successor was Thomas Wilson, who was succeeded 13 February, 1773, by William Dagger, who was buried at Bispham in 1787.

#### BAINES' CHARITIES.

By the will already recited James Baines left to trustees a close of land in Carleton called West Hall Field, containing about six acres, the clear annual profits whereof to be paid yearly "to the Minister or Vicar of the parish church of Poulton;" to Richard Butcher of Layton and five others he left £800 to the intent that they should invest the same, and out of the profits pay one half for the maintenance and use of the poorest sort of inhabitants of the township of Poulton which receive no parochial relief, and for putting out poor children as apprentices (no one poor family to have over 20s. a year), which was to be distributed at Christmas Eve: the other half of the profits to be used for putting out apprentices poor children of the townships of Marton, Hardhorn-with-Newton, Carleton, and Thornton.

The £800 has been handed over to the free school, and a christmas dole of about 12s. per annum is given to the poor.

<sup>1</sup> Bishop's registers, Chester.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

## NICKSON'S CHARITY.

Nicholas Nickson of Compley in Poulton, by his will dated 12 April, 1720, gave to Alice his wife and her heirs and assigns his house and lands at Compley, consisting of sixteen acres, for her life, but after her decease he charged the same with the payment of £100, and £5 per annum interest until payment thereof, which £100 he gave to the churchwardens of the parish and overseers of the poor in the township of Poulton in trust to pay yearly, on 25 December, 50s. to the vicar of Poulton for the time being, and 50s. to the poor inhabitants being housekeepers of the township of Poulton not being in receipt of relief out of the poor's rate.

By indenture dated 18 July, 1783, James Standen conveyed to the churchwardens and overseers a close of land in Poulton called Durham's Croft, for the consideration of £120 (of which £20 was paid out of the rates).

In 1822 the mode of disposing of this charity was, one sixth of the rent to the poor's rate, one half of the remainder to the vicar of Poulton, the other half to the poor housekeepers,<sup>1</sup> this arrangement is still carried out.

## WHITEHEAD'S CHARITY.

The donor of this charity was Ellen Whitehead who died before 1748, but of whom nothing is known except that she gave a cottage and land in Staining, for the remainder of a term of 1,000 years, to trustees to hold the same for the benefit of poor housekeepers of the township of Hardhorn-with-Newton, in such manner as directed by her last will and testament.

In 1817 there was upon the ground three cottages and a weaving shop. In 1824 a considerable sum was in the hands of the trustees, and altogether the charity had been badly administered.

## EDWARD WHITESIDE'S CHARITY.

The donor of this was Edward Whiteside of Little Marton, sailor, who made his will 22 December, 1721, after directing that

<sup>1</sup> Charity Com. Report.

his body is to "be desently buried," he continues as follows : "That my ground be kept in leas acording as my executers shall see fit, and what spares it is will that they by cloth and giue it to poore people that has nothing out of the town, that it be given in little Marton side, and it is my will that if there be a minister that preches in Marton that they give him something what they shall see fit. It is my will that they can by land that they sell my parsnable [personal] estate and by as much as it will purchas : it is my Will that two acres which my father hath now in possession that when it falls into my hands and posshon [possession] that it go the way above named. It is my mind that my executers give it when they shall see fit and I hope they will chuse faithful men who will act according to themselves and I make my good friend Anthony Sherson and Thomas Grimbalsen, Executers of this my last Will."

The exact sum realized under the above has not been recorded, but land was ultimately purchased by the trustees which in 1823 was let for £14 a year, which was expended in the purchase of linen and woollen cloth which were distributed to the poor of Little Marton at Candlemas, as was also two or three pounds in small sums of money, but out of the gross receipts the trustees each received half-a-guinea for their trouble, as well as a dinner on the day the cloth was bought, and when the dole was made each recipient had a glass of gin given to him.

A new trust deed was recommended but it has not been executed.

#### WILLIAM WHITESIDE'S CHARITY.

The sum of £100 was bequeathed by William Whiteside by will in 1742 for clothing for the poor of Marton not receiving parochial relief.

The interest of this is expended in clothing and distributed on 1 January in each year.

#### HODGSON'S CHARITY.

John Hodgson by will dated 25 September, 1761, gave a

messuage and lands in Marton, as well as his personal estate, to trustees who were to sell the same, and after paying funeral expenses, &c., to invest the proceeds, and out of the yearly interest to buy meal for the use of the poor householders in Great Marton, to be distributed on Christmas day for ever.<sup>1</sup>

In 1786 the sum of £100 had been invested, which produced £5 yearly, which was employed as set forth in the will, and continues to be so used to the present day.

#### JOLLY'S CHARITY.

Edward Jolly of Mythop in Weeton-with-Preese in the parish of Kirkham, for some time before 13 February, 1784, had "given to the minister of Marton chapel or the clerk thereof 6*d*. weekly to be laid out in bread to be distributed after divine service amongst the poor inhabitants of Great and Little Marton as attended there." By indenture bearing the above date Edward Jolly gave to certain trustees £60 to be invested at interest in order that in future 1*s*. per week might be expended in bread to be distributed as heretofore, the surplus, if any, to be given to the clerk of the chapel, and it was provided that if ever afterwards the chapel (which was not then consecrated or endowed but supported by voluntary contributions), should be used for a dissenting meeting house, or if divine service should not be performed for four successive Sundays according to the Church of England, then the weekly dole should be distributed amongst the poor of Great and Little Singleton and Wecton-with-Preese who should attend service in the chapel of Great and Little Singleton. A new trust deed was executed 8 July, 1863, the original sum of £60 having been invested in Consols. Bread is distributed every Sunday afternoon.

#### MARGARET WHITTAM'S CHARITY.

This consists of £40 bequeathed in 1814 for the support of the Sunday School, which has been invested in the Consols.

<sup>1</sup> Charity Com. Report.

## CHAPTER VI.

## OLD HALLS AND OLD FAMILIES.

## ROSSALL GRANGE.

AT the taking of the Domesday survey two carucates of land in *Rushall* belonged to Roger de Poitou, but on his attainure they passed to the crown, and on 28 August, 18 John (1216), the king ordered the earl of Chester to give seisin of the pastures in Rushall to the abbot of Dieu la Cresse, and at the same time he directed William Pincerna and Adam de Yeland to attend him and to report that it was done, when he should next come into those parts.<sup>1</sup> Henry III. in 1220 issued a writ to the sheriff of Lancashire requiring him to make enquiry by discreet and lawful men as to the extent of the pasture in Roshall which his father had given to the abbot of Deulecrosse.<sup>2</sup> The result of the inquisition was that in 12 Hen. III. (1227-8) the abbot of Dieulacrosse<sup>3</sup> paid to the King 500 marks for all his land in Roshall with the appurtenances, and agreed to pay a rental of 50 marks at the feast of St. Michael, and 50 marks at Easter.<sup>4</sup>

Subsequently the abbot appears to have received a free grant of the lands, as at a trial which was held at Lancaster in the time of Edward I., he produced a charter dated 28 July, 31 Hen. III. (1247), which granted to God, the church of St. Mary, and the abbot of Dieulacrosse the manor of *Russal* with its appurtenances of marshes, meres, fisheries, sea-wreckage, free from all services

<sup>1</sup> Close Rolls, I., p. 284.

<sup>2</sup> Rot. Chart. 12 Hen. III. M. 3.

<sup>3</sup> Dieu la Cresse, or Dieulacrosse in the county of Stafford, was founded in the reign of King John by Ranulph de Blundeville earl of Chester.

<sup>4</sup> Dodsworth MSS., 53, 99.



for ever. This was, however, disputed by the king who claimed the manor by descent from his ancestor king John; the jury decided for the abbot, judgment, however, was suspended, and a new claim put in by the king's attorney, who said that the abbot only held the manor in bailiwick of king John and Henry III., and that there were 30 years of king Henry's reign before the abbot held any fee or free tenement in the manor, which was worth 100 marks a year, which rent was in arrears the whole 30 years; he therefore claimed 3,000 marks from the abbot.<sup>1</sup>

The jury decided that the abbot's predecessor held in bailiwick for seven years, the manor then being worth £20 a year, which was also its value in the first twenty-four years of king Henry's reign; in the last six years of his reign, before the grant of the charter (dated 31 Hen. III.), it was worth 40 marks per annum.

The abbot was therefore compelled to pay the arrears to the king.

By charter dated 17 Henry III. (1232-3) Roger de Hetton released to the abbot of Dieulacres all his rights in Roshall between Salcolinpul and Stodfolpul:<sup>2</sup> in the same year Richard Princerna and Roger, son of Alan de Singleton also gave their lands in Roshall.<sup>3</sup>

Theobald Walter held certain lands in Roshall which, by charter with date, but witnesssd by John de Lacy, constable of Chester, he quit-claimed to the abbot of Dieulacres,<sup>4</sup> and in 19 Henry III. (1234-5) William de Clifton gave all his rights in Roshall to the abbot.<sup>5</sup>

In the year 1252 William de Newton, son of Richard de Bisphem, gave to the abbot a free ingress for washing his sheep from Roshall in the pool of Little Bispham.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Plac de Quo Warr, 20 Edw. I., Lanc. Rot. 4.

<sup>2</sup> Salcolinpul and Stodfolpul have probably been washed away by the encroaching sea.

<sup>3</sup> Chartulary of Dieulacres, Dodsworth MSS.

<sup>4</sup> Dodsworth MSS., lxvi. 112.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, 111.

<sup>6</sup> Chartulary of Dieulacres, Dodsworth MSS.

In the taxation of Pope Nicholas (*circa* A.D. 1291) the abbey's possessions in Roshall were assessed at £61 10s.

The abbots of Dieulacres held Rossall until the time of Henry VIII., and built there an extensive grange which was situate near to the sea, at a place now called Fenny, where many remains of the old foundations have from time to time been discovered ; over the exact site of the buildings the sea now washes. On the adjoining warren is a pathway still known as the Abbot's Walk.

At the dissolution of the monasteries in 1539-40 Dieulacres abbey passed to the crown, and descended to Edward VI., who, by letters patent 13 March, 1553, granted Rossal, to Thomas fleetwood. (See *post*.)

#### THE ALLEN FAMILY.

For many years before the Fleetwoods purchased Rossall the Allens had been living here, and were amongst the most influential families of the district. According to Flower's *Visitation of Staffordshire*<sup>1</sup> John Allen was settled at Buckenhall, in that county, in the time of Edward III., and Randulphus, one of his descendants, married, towards the end of the 16th century, Elizabeth, the daughter of John Allen of Rossall; unfortunately, however, neither of the copies of the pedigree preserved furnish any clue to lead to the identity of this John Allen. He may have been an uncle of Ralph, and a younger son of Thomas Allen of Buckenhall; on the other hand, Sampson Allen of Carringshall in Staffordshire (whose father, Thomas, was brother to John Allen of Buckenhall, living *temp.* Edward III.), had a son Ralph who is described "de Wadlington, Co. Lanc.,"<sup>2</sup> and it is not unlikely that one of his sons may have migrated to Rossall, which is only some twenty-five miles from Waddington.

Another argument in favour of this supposition is that John Allen, the grandson of above-named John, married the daughter of Thomas Lister of Westby in Gisburne, which is the adjoining

<sup>1</sup> Harl. MSS., 1172 fol. 102, and 6128 fol. 17.

<sup>2</sup> Waddington is in the Yorkshire part of the parish of Mitton.

parish to Mitton. William Allen was abbot of Dieulacres in the time of Henry VIII., and tradition says that he made a grant of certain lands in Rossall to his nephew, who became the progenitor of the Allens of Rossall; be this as it may, it is certain that at this time a branch of the family was living here, as in the inventory of possessions of the monastery of Dieulacres<sup>1</sup> (time Hen. VIII.), mention is made of the following debts owing by the abbot, viz :

“ To Elizabeth Alenn of Rossall xxij<sup>li</sup>.

„ John Alenn of Rossall iiij<sup>li</sup>.”

This *John Allen* was buried in the church of Bispham before the year 1530, and he left a son George Allen, whose will was proved at Richmond, and which is of singular interest, not only throwing new light on the genealogy of the family but furnishing several items of local information.

“ In the nayme off God Amen xxvij Marche in the yeare of oure lorde god 1530. I George Alen of Roshall sicke in body and hole yn mynd dreding the article of deyth makyth my Testament and last Wyll in manner and fforme followinge — the ffyrst I bequeth my soule to God Allmyghty and to sant Marie and to all the celestial company of hevyn . . . . my body to be buried w<sup>th</sup>in the Church of All Hallows<sup>2</sup> [Bispham] near unto the body of my ffather also I gyff and bequyth unto Isabel my wyff for mortuarie all that ryght requyreth, also I gyff my said wyff all my lands during the terme of lyffe natural and after the deceasse of the said Isabel, then all said lands I gyf unto my son John Alen. Also I gyff unto Isabel my wyff and to William Alen, Thomas Alen, and Richard Alen, my sonnes all my goods moveable and unmoveable except such goods as I shall gyff and bequeth for the helth of my soul. I gyff to Isabel my wyff xiiij<sup>li</sup> vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>. Also I bequeth to John Alen my sone, xvj oxen

<sup>1</sup> Record office, No. 172.

<sup>2</sup> This is the earliest mention of the dedication of Bispham church; except the inscription on a communion cup, dated 1704, there was no evidence of its being dedicated to “ All Hallows.”

with all the gear belonging, also vnto the said John and his wyff syx sheyp, also I bequeth to the said John my insyght of houshold syght of my wyff. Also I bequeth to Hugh Alen my sone x . . . I bequeth to the Abbot and Convent of Cokersand to pray for [my soul] xx<sup>s</sup>. Also I bequeth vnto Sr Edward Bonde my p'ste [priest] to syng for . . . . . by the space of iij yeris xij<sup>li</sup> for his annual . . . . and yerely for xx yeris iij<sup>li</sup>. Also I bequeth to ye p'ysh church of Pulton to ye makyng . . . . . x<sup>li</sup>. Also I bequeth to the Church of All Hallows xx<sup>s</sup>. Also I bequeth to . . . . . of Pulton to p'y for my soule a heffer also to the ffriars of Con' . . . . . Also I bequeth to Singleton Chappell xij<sup>s</sup> and also to Hambleton [chapel] xij<sup>s</sup> Also to John Whytsyde to p'y for my soule iij<sup>s</sup> To Sr Wifm Sylkok of All Hallows xij<sup>d</sup> also to Sr Ric. Wayl xij<sup>d</sup>. Also I bequeth to John Whytsyde to pray for my soule iij<sup>s</sup>. To Sr William Sylkok of All Hallows xij<sup>d</sup> also Sr Ric. Wayl xij<sup>d</sup>. Also to Ric. wyffe Anyon<sup>1</sup> a cowe and I bequeth to John Anyon . . . . a heffer. To Agnes Anyon iij lambes and to . . . vj lambes Also I bequeth to M'gret Alen x<sup>s</sup> and to her mother xx<sup>s</sup> To Isabel Rede xx<sup>s</sup> to Alys Syngleton an incalf heffer. To my Cousin John Calvert of Northbeg an yncalf heffer Also James Calvert an heffer and to Elizabeth Calvert an incalf heffer. Residue of my goods I ordayne and constitute Isabel my wyff and John Alen my sone my executors . . . . accordinge to the tenure of this my p'sent Testament and for the helth of my soule . . . . as they shall answer me at the day of dome. These wytnessyth Mr Hugh Sneyde Bac. of Divinitie and vicar of the parish Church of Poulton, Sir Gilbert Isworth Chanon and sub'p'or of Cokersand, Sir Edward Bonde cap', William Whiteside cap', William Alen, John Calvert of Northb'ck of the . . . . James Calvert brother to the said John et aliis."

George Allen left issue: 1 John Allen (of whom hereafter); 2 William Allen; 3 Thomas Allen, who left Lancashire and settled in London as a merchant, and in 1586 he is called "her

<sup>1</sup> ? Wife of Ric. Anyon.

majesty's merchant," and Anne his wife was one of the gentlewomen of the queen's privy chamber.<sup>1</sup> The marriage of Thomas Allen and Anne Thawthes is registered at St. Peter's, Cornhill, 19 January, 1566. He was buried at St. Michael's church, Cornhill, 21 December, 1591, and is in the register described as "ye Queen's Majesty's Merchant." In the course of one of the trials in the Duchy Court referring to Rossall Grange, it was given in evidence that the queen assigned the lease of the Grange to Thomas Allen and Anne his wife. (See *post.*)

4 Hugh Allen, the youngest son of George Allen, was living in 1560, his name appearing then as a witness to the will of Richard Anyon of Bispham.

*John Allen*, the eldest son of George Allen, was bailiff of Rossall under the abbot of Dieulacres in 1539.<sup>2</sup> He married Jane, daughter of Thomas Lister of Arnold-Biggin in Westby, in the county of York, and was living in 1566, when John Hogson of Little Carleton, in his will, dated 2 June in that year, desired his "Master John Alen to be supervisor." In 1565, Richard Cropper, the vicar of Poulton, bequeathed to "Majister Allen xij<sup>d</sup>." He died seised of lands in Pulton, Bispham, and elsewhere, which he had granted by deed dated 26 July, 5 Eliz. (1564), to his son George and Elizabeth his wife (George's wife), for their lives, with remainder to their heirs. His will was dated 6 April, 1569, but is one of the lost Amounderness wills. He had issue: 1 George (of whom hereafter); 2 Richard said to have lived at Toderstaff hall; 3 William, the cardinal (of whom hereafter); 4 Gabriel, in 1579 was living at Toderstaff, where his widowed

<sup>1</sup> Record office, *Duchy Pleadings*, Eliz., xciv. A 19. In 1575 a Thomas Allen was one of the churchwardens of St. Michael's church, Cornhill, and amongst the wardens' accounts for the year 1589 appears a receipt from "Mr. Allen for one fore nones knell and ye peales for his wyfe viij<sup>s</sup>." The register of Cornhill gives the burial 29 July, 1589, of "Agnes Allen wife of Thomas, merchant, mother to the maydes of honor to Queen Elizabeth." Thomas Allen and Agnes Hylle were married at Cornhill 1 Dec., 1575; from this it is evident that at this time there were two London merchants of the name, probably father and son.

<sup>2</sup> Dodsworth MSS., Chartulary of Dieulacres.

mother also lived ;<sup>1</sup> he was heir to his brother the cardinal, and had after his brother's decease "an entertainment of 25 crowns a month assigned to him by the Pope, and another in Flanders of 40 crowns a month." He died at Rome 24 March, 1597/8. 5 Mary, married Christopher Coniers of Yorkshire ; 6 Elizabeth, married William, son of George Hesketh of Poulton, and had issue ; 7 Anne, married George Gillow of Bryning, and had issue.

*George Allen*, eldest son of John Allen, was born about the year 1529, and probably at Rossall Grange ; he married Elizabeth, daughter of William Westby of Mowbrick. He died 9 August, 1579. An abstract of his will is preserved in the British Museum,<sup>2</sup> of which the following is a copy :

"George Allen of Rossall, Gentleman, dated 6 August, 1579, Gives to Elizabeth his Wife his Leases and Tenements for her life and if she should die before the Leases expire then to her son John Allen one tenement called Rough holme in Hutton in the Co. of York which was granted to him by his Brother-in-law, Christopher Conyers.

"To his Brother Gabriel Allen another lease of a tenement in the same place.

"To his sister Wife of Christopher Conyers 'two old angells.'

"To his brother William £3 6s. 8d. To his brother Gabriell his horse.

"To Agnes Hesketh and Ellen Westby £4 each. To John Allen a gold ring, to his daughter Ellen one gold jewil. To his two daughters Catherine and Mary one cowe and a calf, to Elizabeth his Wife his best horse.

"To his Brother Westby an 'old angell,' to his Brother Hesketh the like. The residue to his wife Elizabeth who with his cousin William Hawkesworth he appoints executrix."<sup>3</sup>

From the *inq. post mort.*<sup>4</sup> taken at Preston 12 January, 1579;80,

<sup>1</sup> *Inq. post mort.* of George Allen.

<sup>2</sup> Add. MSS., No. 32115.

<sup>3</sup> Rosamond Lister, sister of John Allen's wife, married William Hawkesworth of Hawkesworth.

<sup>4</sup> Record office, vol. 14, N 80.

it appears that he died seised of 6 messuages, 8 cottages, 100 acres of land, 60 of moore and turbary, in Pulton, Thorneton, Hambleton, Northbreck, Ellell, Bispham, and Forton, as also of land in Warton, Marton, Thistleton, Hayholme, and Cleveley. He also held a lease of a "farm called Rossall," and another of "the manor of Norbreck," for "certain yeares then enduring," which were worth C marks a year, and "certen goods to the valure of ix<sup>cll</sup> and in money ccc<sup>ll</sup> and in debts cxl<sup>ll</sup>" all which goods he left to his wife and child, the son "having the lands by descent from his father could claim none of the goods by custome of the countrie"; also a lease called "Tatherstaffe" [Todderstaff] was conveyed to two of his daughters by their uncle which their father "occupied in his life time and since their mother." Elizabeth, the widow of George Allen, soon after her husband's death, "being so obstinate and refusing to come to church" delivered up to Thomas Curwen, servant to Thomas Preston Esq., goods worth iv<sup>c</sup> iv<sup>xx</sup> x<sup>l</sup> [£490] to be kept upon the farm of Rossall to the use of her children, and appointed William Anyon to have the dealings of the said goods. Elizabeth Allen was indited and outlawed in September, 1583, and in January following the sheriff seized the goods and farm and in gold v<sup>cll</sup> and on 23 January 1583/4, a jury summonsed by the Sheriff declared the goods and farm to be forfeited to the Queen.<sup>1</sup>

George Allen had issue: 1 John Allen, born in 1554, was a recusant, and before 34 Eliz., 1591/2, he left the kingdom, and for doing so without licence his possessions were seized<sup>2</sup> as were also those of his mother and sisters. According to the *inq. post mort.* he died at Preston, 23 June, 1593,<sup>3</sup> without issue, his next heir being his sister Mary, who had married Thomas Worthington of Blanscowe in Lancashire. He held lands in Poulton, Thorneton, Bispham, Hambleton, Northbrecke, Ellell, Forton, Marton, War-

<sup>1</sup> Record office, Dom. Eliz., vol. 167, N 42.

<sup>2</sup> Special Com. (Q.R. Exchequer) Record Office, No. 1211, 24 Eliz.

<sup>3</sup> The author of *The Records of the English Society of Jesus*, says this is wrong, and that he died at Pont a Mousson, 24 June, 1585.

ton, Hayholme, Carleton, and elsewhere. The lands in Poulton were held of William Fleetwood in socage. After his death the rents and profits of his estate were paid to Queen Elizabeth, and afterwards to James I. up to 1612.<sup>1</sup>

2 Ellen Allen left the country in 1584 arriving at Reims 9 Sept., with her sister Catherine and her mother,<sup>2</sup> became a nun and professed at St. Ursula's, Louvain, 1594, where she died in 1603.

3 Margaret Allen, baptized at Kirkham, 30 Sept., 1563, died young.

4 Catherine, left England in 1584. Became a nun at St. Ursula's, Louvain, professed 1595, died 1612.

5 Mary, married Thomas Worthington of Blaniscombe, who ultimately succeeded to her brother's estates. In 1612 Mary Worthington was aged 37.

*William Allen*, the third son of John Allen. The life of Cardinal Allen has so frequently been written that it will not be necessary to do more than furnish a brief outline of his career. He was born in 1532, probably at Rossall, and baptized at Bisham church, where his grandfather and great-grandfather were buried. When about 15 years old, in 1547, he was sent to Oriel College, Oxford, where he was under the tuition of Morgan Philips; he was elected a fellow of his college in 1550-1, he took his M.A. degree 10 July, 1554. During the reign of Edward VI. his religious troubles appear to have begun, as an entry in the council book under 6 October, 1551, records "complaint made in council that one Allen a fellow of Oxford being committed to close prison was suffered to have conference with others and to translate a supplication into Latin for Peter Paulo an Italian."

Shortly after the accession of Mary he was again in favour, and in 1556 he was chosen a principal of St. Mary's Hall, and in that, or the next, year one of the proctors of the University. In 1558 he was appointed a canon of York.

The re-establishment of Protestantism drove Allen from Eng-

<sup>1</sup> Record Office, *inq. post mort.*, vol. xx., No. 23.

<sup>2</sup> Douay Diary, p. 202.



land, and he went to Louvain, where he was engaged in the education of the sons of Roman Catholics, amongst others, Christopher Blunt, who, in 1601, was executed for his share in the Essex conspiracy.

In 1562, acting, it is said, under medical advice, he returned to his native country, where he was for some time hidden by his friends; tradition says that the secret chamber in Mains Hall was for a long time his hiding place. The queen, on 21 February, 1567, 8, issued a writ to the sheriff of Lancashire, ordering him to apprehend Allen and others, "late Ministers in the Church who were justly deprived of their office for their contempt and obstinacy, and who are yet or lately have been secretly maintained in private places in that our county of Lancaster." It has been generally asserted that he left England in 1565, but it is probable that he did not finally quit his native country until a year or two after that date. As the inhabitants of Poulton were to a great extent Roman Catholics, he would have no difficulty in lying hid for a long period after he was supposed to have quitted the country.

In 1567 he was at Mechlin, and in that year removed to Rome, and in the year following, in conjunction with Dr. Vendeville, he established the college at Douay, where, in 1571, he took the degree of Doctor of Divinity. It is a rather remarkable circumstance that whilst William Allen is in correspondence with Mary Queen of Scots, whose favour he enjoyed, his uncle, Thomas Allen, and his wife should be enjoying the patronage of Queen Elizabeth. (See p. 127.)

In a letter, dated Sheffield Castle, 3 August, 1577, the ill-fated Queen of Scots wrote to Allen, "the many good reports and multitude of rare vertues floweing in yow which long agoe have made your name be knowne not onely unto me but to the greatest and every one of good in christendom have no lesse made me esteeme your comfortable letter in this my affliction as a singular

<sup>4</sup> Brit. Mus., Cotton MSS., Calig. cv. 80.

sign of some good to ensue therefore, &c.”<sup>4</sup> When the preparation for the Spanish invasion was being made, Allen, by command of the Pope, wrote the “Admonition to the Nobility and People of England,” in which he called upon them to rise in favour of the king of Spain.

He was created cardinal 7 August, 1587. A few months before the ceremony took place, Count Olivares, by command of Philip II., set forth the following reasons why Allen should be advanced to that dignity: “In the person of Father Allen everything which can be desired concurs, for he belongs to no party; he has learning, morals, judgement, great acquaintance with everything in the kingdom [England] and with the negotiations for its conversion, and the instruments of all these have been and are his disciples, of whom so many have suffered martyrdom — that the purple of his hat may be said to have been dyed in the blood of martyrs whom he has educated.” In 1589 the king of Spain appointed Cardinal Allen archbishop of Mechlin, but the Pope insisted on his remaining at Rome.

For the rest of his days he lived in the imperial city, surrounded with all the splendour and luxury of a wealthy cardinal. In 1585 his health gave way, and he is said to have been an invalid for the remainder of his life. He died on 16 October, 1594, and was buried with great pomp in the English chapel at Rome, where the following inscription still remains:

Deo Trino Uni.

Gulielmo Alano, Lancastriensi,

S. R. E. Presb.

Card. Angliæ, qui extorris a patria, perfunctus laboribus. diuturnis in orthodoxa religione tuenda, sudoribus multis in seminariis ad salutem patriæ instituendis, fovendis, periculis plurimis ob eccl. Rom. opere, scriptis, omni corporis et animi contentione defensam, hic in ejus gremio scientiæ, pietatis, modestiæ, integritatis fama et exemplo clarus ac piis omnibus charus occubuit, xvii. kal. Novemb., An ætat.

lxi. exilii xxxiii., sal. huma. MDXCIV.

Inter lachrimas exulum pro religione  
 civium, pepetuum illorum effugium  
 Gabriel Alanus frater. Thomas Heschetus sororis filius,  
 fratri, avunculo chariss, optimo optimeque merito  
 mærentes posuerunt.

Allen's will was dated at Rome 9 October, 1594, and by it he left certain chasubles of small value which he had in his chapel to the parish church of Pulton where he was born, when the people there became Catholics, which in the meantime were to be kept in the chapel of the English college at Rome.

Cardinal Allen was the author of a large number of theological treatises, inter alia, *Brief reasons concerning the Catholic Faith; A defense of the doctrine of Catholics concerning Purgatory and Prayer for the dead; and A treatise made in defense of the lawful power and authority of the Priesthood to remitte sinnes, &c.*<sup>1</sup>

A recent writer in the *Edinburgh Review*, who has evidently no sympathy with the Roman Catholic martyrs, who, he urges, did not die for theological belief, but for treasonal plots, thus sums up the character of Allen: "It would not be easy to name a single Englishman of the Elizabethan age whose life and writings could furnish a better insight into the character of the political and religious conflict between England and the Pope than those of Cardinal Allen. His intellectual and literary gifts, the virtues of his private life, his undoubted orthodoxy, his energy and tact, marked him out as the foremost amongst his co-religionists at a time when they could boast of numbering two-thirds of the population of England."

The Fleetwoods, as already stated, got possession of the Rosall estates in 1553, but by no means quiet or undisputed possession, as between them and the Allen family a prolonged legal contest took place. In the Duchy Court the Attorney-general,

<sup>1</sup> For life of Allen, see *The Biographical Dictionary of Society for the diffusion of useful knowledge*; Wood's *Athen. Oxon.*; Dodd's *Church History*; Fitzherbert's *Epitome Vitæ Cardinalis Alanæ*; *Biographia Brit.*; *Allen's defence of Stanley*, Chet. Soc., vol. xxv.; *Letters and Memorials of William Cardinal Allen*.

by Thomas Allen, appeared against Edmund Fleetwood, 7 February, 1586-7, when it was set forth that Thomas Allen of London, merchant, and Elizabeth Allen of Rossall, widow, were possessed for divers years to come of the Grange in Rossall ; but she having been outlawed, her estate became forfeited to the queen, who, by letters patent dated 22 June, 1584, assigned the same to Thomas Allen and Anne his wife (see p. 128) for the remainder of the unexpired term. To this Edmund Fleetwood replied that he had evidence to show that Thomas Allen in October, 1584, by John Rickford, assigned to him all his interest in the Grange, for which he had agreed to pay £90 a year for four years. Fleetwood paid the first year's rent, and then refused to pay any more.<sup>1</sup>

In the following year the suit was renewed, when Thomas Allen asserts that, not having the original lease in his possession, he is unable to state when it would terminate, but it was well known that Edmund Fleetwood had purchased the inheritance of the Grange, and held the evidences ; he repeats the Fleetwoods now refused to pay the annual rent of £90 for the remainder of the term. William Wilcockes gave evidence to the effect that he was possessed of a tenement in Rotherholme in Poulton which his father, grandfather, and ancestors had held, time out of mind, by the custom of tenant right of the dissolved monastery of Dieulacres, as part of the manor of Rossall (as he thought), and he then held it of Edmund Fleetwood, lord and owner of the Grange of Rossall, and to whom he paid rents and services, and rendered to him at his Grange divers "bonnes" in shearing and mowing, as his ancestors had been accustomed to do. He denied that Thomas Allen had any interest in the Grange. In the following year the suit was renewed,<sup>2</sup> when John Brogreave, Esq., the attorney-general, denies that the abbot of Dieulacres was seised of the Grange, or that it passed to Henry VIII. by surrender of the abbot and convent, as it was then held by lease which was still in force, and under-

<sup>1</sup> *Duchy Pleadings*, vol. xciv. No. 36a.

<sup>2</sup> *Duchy Records, Pleadings*, vol. xcvi., A 17.

takes to prove that Edward Fleetwood agreed to pay £90 a year for the Grange for four years. To the attorney-general Edmund Fleetwood replied (though not until 38 Eliz. (1595-6)), that Edward VI. did, by letters patent, convey the estate to Thomas Fleetwood, his father, in fee, that he died seised of the same about 12 Elizabeth (1569-70), and that afterward he, the defendant (Edmund Fleetwood), entered into the premises. He further asserts that Elizabeth Allen had no title but held "at his will, albeit she pretended to have a lease," but at the same time to "avoid suit and trouble" he had agreed with John Rickford for the assignment to him of Thomas Allen's interest in the Grange and the tenements at Norbrecke and Little Bispham, and that subsequently he went to London to get the bargain confirmed by Thomas Allen, and with this view he offered Allen for his stock of sheep, and for his interest in the Grange, £240 and one year's rent of £90; but Allen would not permit him to enjoy certain tenements in Norbrecke, which he alleged were not in the assignment.

Whatever was the legal decision it is clear from subsequent records that the estate passed ultimately to the Fleetwoods.

Bartholomew Hesketh on 29 June, 1585,<sup>1</sup> appears as plaintiff complaining that he had about 66 sheep feeding in a great pasture at Rossall which had been seized by the sheriff on behalf of the queen on the indictment for recusancy against Elizabeth Allen, and that the sheep had since passed in the possession of Thomas Allen, citizen of London.

THE SEIZURE AND PLUNDER OF ROSSALL GRANGE AND  
TODDERSTAFFE HALL, THE RESIDENCE AND ESTATES  
OF MRS. ALLEN, THE WIDOW OF THE BROTHER  
OF THE CARDINAL ALLEN.<sup>2</sup>

The troubles and wrongs encountered and most bravely borne for the Catholic Faith by Mrs. Allen, a gentlewoman of most

<sup>1</sup> Duchy Records, vol. xcvi., II. 13.

<sup>2</sup> Translated from Dr. Bridgewater's *Concertatio Eccles. Cath. in Angliæ Augusta Trevirorum*, 1594, by Mr. Joseph Gillow.

distinguished birth and virtue, widow of the brother of the Most Illustrious Cardinal William Allen, along with her children, from the year 1584.

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Towards the close of the year 1583, viz., in the month of November, the Privy Council came to the conclusion that nothing was calculated to inflict greater hardship on the Catholic body, or more cruel suffering on inoffensive folk, than to select for the charge of the Manchester prisoners, and to proclaim as sheriff of the county, Edmund Trafford, a man of good family, with the rank of knight, but so thoroughly imbued with the perfidy of Calvin, and the phrenzy of Beza, that it might be said he was merely waiting for this very opportunity of in every way pursuing with insults all that professed the catholic religion, and despoiling them of their property. For the furious hate of this inhuman wretch was all the more fiercely stirred by the fact, that he saw offered to him such a prospect of increasing his slender means out of the property of Catholics, and of adorning his house with the various articles of furniture filched from their houses, that, though, as far as his own fortune went, he could scarcely be called a gentleman, still, at least with other people's gold, however wrongfully come by, he might rightly be called and accounted a knight.

When the Catholics perceived that the office aforesaid had been conferred upon a man harshly disposed towards the true believers, and thirsting beyond measure for other people's money, owing to his own needy fortunes, they saw clearly that a storm of unusual violence was gathering over them. Accordingly, whilst relying in the first place on God's help, they encouraged one another unto patience.

Shortly afterwards, by the zealous aid of a friend, they learnt that Edmund Trafford had been recently ordered by the Council of the queen's majesty to search out all priests and all other members of the Catholic body who refused to come to the assemblies and churches of the Calvinists, and also to put into execution

certain most cruel laws enacted against those who had been outlawed. And for fear lest this man, who was prepared for any nefarious deed, should not carry out their bidding to the letter, he received from the Council a list of names of over three hundred Catholics. Of these more than one hundred and forty were gentlefolk, the remainder respectable citizens.

The Catholics had discovered that the council of the queen had given special orders to Edmund Trafford, and that that ferocious man had already inwardly resolved to arrest as soon as possible Mrs. Allen of Rossall, a lady conspicuous for her rare virtue, prudence, and zeal for the faith, and to visit her, when arrested, with the very harshest and bitterest punishment. The first announcement of this design reached Mrs. Allen, as if for a new year's gift, at the beginning of the new year, when the rumour, which had previously although covertly been spread abroad, was strongly confirmed by the cruel and outrageous proceedings which were carried on at Christmas, and the searching of the houses of the Catholics dwelling about Prescott, and the pillage of all their property.

A special sufferer from this wrong-doing was Mr. Lathom of Mosbarrow, for when the Calviniste thieves had searched every corner of his house with the keenness of hounds on the scent, and had carried off every sacred object they could find in it, by way of making a further exhibition of their barbarous cruelty, these fell and savage creatures rushed upon Lathom's wife, and fumbled in her bosom and pockets, and even tore open and examined her under-garments, to see whether they could discover a little round cake of blest wax (called an *Agnus Dei*), or rosaries, crosses, medals, or anything else of that kind hidden about her body. Finally they declared confiscated to the queen the whole of this gentleman's property, both movable and immovable, and locked up and set seals upon the chamber doors, the chests, and other things of the kind, till some more convenient mode of deciding about everything, according to the good pleasure of the members of the Queen's Council, should be furnished.

When Mrs. Allen had received clearer information of these occurrences, she betook herself, together with George Bramley, a pious and venerable priest, and Mrs. Coniers, a kinswoman of her husband's, to her accustomed place of retreat, which she had made use of on Christmas day and the following days, and abandoning her own home, withdrew to certain more secret spots that she might not be taken unexpectedly in the quiet night-time by these hungry brigands, who chose that time especially for breaking into other people's houses. Thence in the grey morning she returned home, heard mass, and received Christ's most holy Body, in order to obtain in her holy contest more strength of soul against the enemy of truth.

Whilst the good matron was thus piously celebrating with her family those festivals of our Lord's birth and circumcision, they were overtaken by repeated and more certain rumours that went abroad concerning the approach of the searchers, on the very eve of the Epiphany, on which day, in consequence of the closeness of the danger, she had resolved to refrain from the holy mysteries and to wander through uncertain places. But, in truth, when she learned that a wretched man, reconciled to the Catholic Church, who was very desirous on that day to be present at the sacrifice of the mass and to receive the most holy Body of his Saviour (which he had not done for twenty years back), the holy woman stayed at home, and on the same day caused watch to be diligently kept, since an inroad of the enemy was expected from hour to hour. But towards evening, although it was Sunday, she betook herself to more hidden spots, leaving at home her three daughters, Helen, Catherine and Mary (of whom the eldest was not more than 16 years of age), in order that, whatever might come to pass, they might take possession of the furniture, the lands, and the other property, as lawful heiresses, partly from the will and testament of their deceased father, and partly from their mother's gift *inter vivos*. This gift the exceedingly thoughtful matron had made by the advice of men learned in the law, and it ought to have been valid and unassailable, if at this day there were left any room in England for common justice.



The same night there came to the house a messenger, as he pretended to be (for in reality he was a spy, as was made manifest on the next day), sent by Mr. Edmund Fleetwood; this man, after he had made careful and diligent enquiry about Mrs. Allen, said that as she was not at home he must await her return. In the meanwhile on that night the scoundrel pried into every corner of the house.

On the morrow the under-sheriff, together with Huddleston, a justice of the peace, and an out-and-out enemy of the Catholics, having made up a band of the most utter rascals, hastened at early morn from the house of Mr. Worthington of Blainscough, which on the foregoing day they had barbarously plundered, to the house of Mrs. Allen at Rossehall, and there, with the greatest roughness of speech and bearing, they commanded the servants in the Queen's name to open all the doors, and to deliver up into their hands all the keys and all the arms that were in the house. The servants made answer that they neither could nor ought to execute this order, unless they first saw the sovereign's mandate, or as it is called, commission. Hereupon Huddleston said: "Let it be commission enough for you that the High Sheriff's deputy orders it to be done." To this said one of the servants: "That indeed is something, which your worship tells us, still for us it is not enough, as we want to look at the Queen's mandate." However, the domestics were unable to prevent the raging Calvinistic dogs from forcibly entering into the absent widow's house.

Upon their entrance, therefore, into the house, they enquired where Mrs. Allen was, as also her priest, and about Mr. Coniers of Hinton, in Yorkshire, a gentleman highly honoured, and notably Catholic. When the servants made answer that no one of these was in the house, they were straightway ordered in the Queen's name to take an oath, that, unless they wished to be clapt up in prison, they should instantly disclose not only where the afore-named persons were in hiding, but also everything that should be asked of them. When the servants refused any such oath as being audacious and unlawful, it was immediately offered,

in the presence of the rest, to the spy of whom we have already made mention. He took the oath and asserted that he thought Mrs. Allen had been at home after his arrival, and, to give a greater air of likelihood to his story, he declared he had been shut up all night in the room in which he had slept, in order of course that he might not perceive her to be hidden in the house. The lie of this shameless fellow was so clear and palpable, that William Anian, of Chirckbridge, who had slept in the same room with the other man, charged him to his face with a wicked lie.

Being now entered into the dining room, they saw a large portrait hanging upon the wall, and suspecting it to be (as it was) a likeness of that renowned man and distinguished ornament of the English nation, Mr. William Allen, the pursuivants not only hurled innumerable revilings and bloodthirsty speeches against that excellent man, but also defaced his portrait in a marvellous manner with their knives and daggers, and finally threw it down upon the floor and trampled it under foot.

After this performance they received the keys from the eldest daughter, and examined the whole house and every chest therein, everywhere uttering savage complaints because they nowhere found any money (the lust for which was their ruling passion), save half-a-dozen gold rings, with a certain necklace of the value of about twenty crowns, and other things of the like sort, in the chest of one of the daughters. Nevertheless, they did not keep their hands off the apparel of the young gentlewomen, but carried it all away, and parcelled it out among certain considerable persons of no very honourable station, in the hope of being able through their help to come to a knowledge of other matters.

Meanwhile, towards night, Mrs. Allen, who was hiding with her friends not far from her house, upon learning what the spies and hangmen were doing, and that they would not quickly be taking their departure thence, suddenly came to the resolution to send to the house some seven-and-twenty inhabitants of the country, partly her tenants, partly her neighbours and friends, that they

might take meat and drink with her blackguardly guests all the more abundantly, inasmuch as the robbers would seem likely to depart all the sooner if they saw themselves destitute of the necessary provisions—especially as there was no town nor village in the neighbourhood from which victuals could easily be obtained ; nor could the pious gentlewoman have the suspicion that they had come thither to make a long stay, or to rob her and her children of every particle of their property.

The country people, therefore, went up to her house, armed after their wont, and inspired so great a fear into the high sheriff's deputy, who had just then taken his seat at the table with his companions, that, rising from table, they gave ample proof, partly by their silence and partly by their cast-down countenances, both of the evil state of their consciences and the wickedness of their present deeds, and at length setting up a clamour as if they were about to get a bad reception from the country people's cudgels, they began to take counsel for themselves and their belongings.

The servants, perceiving this, as they could not, for all their labour, get these depraved and white-livered wretches out of the house, yet that they might not furnish their adversaries with any occasion either of suspecting ill of the Catholics or of complaining of violence inflicted upon them, made it known to them courteously that they had no need to be afraid of the country people, who had not come thither to do them any harm, but to visit their lady, after the custom of the country, at this holy season, and to recreate her by their presence, and to take dinner with her (if she were at home) ; that therefore the deputy and his companions might freely sit down to table, and fearlessly finish the dinner they had begun. "Very well," said the deputy, after he had plucked up his spirits somewhat at the servant's words, "let food then be given them." Yet neither he nor his companions could take their food with easy minds, as long as they saw themselves unequal in strength to the country folks.

Therefore, about eight o'clock at night, the deputy ordered the rustics, in the queen's name, to depart the house forthwith ; and

as they did not do this with great promptitude, but kept lingering on, he again commanded them in the sovereign's name to take themselves off with all speed, so that the queen's servants might have more perfect quiet, as for the twelve foregoing nights they had scarcely been able to get any sleep, owing to the continual watchings and labours that they had undergone in searching gentlemen's houses. In consequence of this declaration all the country folk, with the exception of seven, betook themselves elsewhere.

Whereupon these royal thieves, having grown more courageous after the departure of the greater part of the rustics, fell upon those who remained boldly and threatened them in the strongest language that they would send them away to the common gaol at Lancaster, nor would release them therefrom until they promised, under recognizances, to appear at the next assizes for the county, and to explain why they came to Mrs. Allen's house at that time above all others, and therein remained the whole of that night, and moreover to answer to the judges as to everything else that might be objected to them.

While the pursuivants were thus engaged, the sheriff's deputy made diligent enquiry from others as to the reason of the country people's coming, and though he could not discover anything in their behaviour which was worthy of blame or punishment, except that they had remained somewhat longer than the deputy had bid them, and that one young man had produced a pack of playing cards and invited his comrades that evening to have a game (and it is truly wonderful that this should have been esteemed a shocking crime by these gospel sheep of Chatterton, superintendant of Chester, as their shepherd himself, for all his episcopal gravity, does not shrink from spending whole nights and days in turning over such like cards instead of holy writ, with the accompaniment of oaths but little worthy of so spiritual a shepherd), yet in the name of the queen's majesty he commanded them to appear at the next assizes for the county.

The hapless rustics obeyed, presented themselves at the assizes,

and were there ordered — not merely those seven who had remained all night, but also the rest who were present at the beginning of the night and who had shortly afterwards retired at the magistrate's bidding — to pay to the sheriff a fine of seventeen English shillings, besides what they had expended in coming to the assizes, and the loss of time in which they ought to have been engaged in sowing their seed. This money the seven rustics, who had been ordered to appear at the assizes, were compelled to pay down forthwith, but the others, who were not then present, were commanded through a bailiff to give their attendance at the next assizes, and at the same time to bring with them the money.

But, to bring back our discourse to the points whence it has stepped aside, on the day whereon the seven aforesaid country people had gone away under recognizances, the sheriff's deputy, as he had determined to abide for some days in Mrs. Allen's house, despatched ten of his attendants and partners in robbery to Manchester. These on their way thither met with a certain spy exceedingly like themselves (for the whole of England swarms with informers of this type) ; this fellow offered his services and labours to promote, as far as he could, their wicked endeavours, and he asserted that on the evening of the foregoing Saturday he had seen the gentlewoman whom they were seeking in the house of a man named Anion ; let them go thither at once, and they would either capture herself there or at least find something there laid up by her. Inflamed to their prey by these words of the traitor, the ravening wolves straightway changed their course and hastened towards Anion's house, and there at length after a long search and turning over of everything, they found in a flour chest £500 in gold pieces, enclosed in a little box, and these together with a great quantity of linen cloth, which the gentlewoman Mrs. Allen had caused to be conveyed thither two days before, they instantly sent to the sheriff's deputy, who was staying in Mrs. Allen's house.

The deputy, in high glee at this happy success of the robbers,

forwarded the stolen money by the hands of the same men to the sheriff; but the plunderers fearing lest but little gain would fall to them from their labours if the whole of the booty were delivered over to the sheriff, kept back to themselves 48 or 49 pounds out of the 500 pounds, which was easily made manifest from the sheriff's account-books, which he was afterwards compelled to show; inasmuch as in these he affirmed that he had received only 451 pounds.

Nor forsooth is it wonderful, if thieves of lower grade provide for themselves betimes without any scruple of conscience, when those their superiors pounce in so barbarous a fashion upon the property of others, so that of England it may be truly said in the words of the prophet, "*How is she become an harlot, the city that was faithful and full of judgment? Justice hath dwelled within her, but now there dwell murderers. Thy silver is turned into dross, thy wine is mingled with water. Thy princes are faithless, the companions of thieves, &c.*"

But not yet content with this plunder, the wicked informers wrung from the unhappy Anion, in whose house they had discovered it, three pounds more, and furthermore cast down upon the ground and trampled under foot the flour that should have served for the maintenance of his poor family. And although the unhappy man afterwards begged of the magistracy, that in common justice his money should not only be restored to him, but also the damage should be made good which the robbers had inflicted on him, nevertheless all that he could get from them was this answer, That all the money found in the house had been Mrs. Allen's, and not his.

At the same time they carried away with them to the sheriff of the county two of Mrs. Allen's servants, as prisoners, whom that utterly barbarous man at once thrust down into a deep dungeon, and upon their being thence brought out after the period of four and twenty hours, he received them with the roughest language, and threatened them with all kinds of torments unless they immediately confessed that Mrs. Allen had packed up the

money with the purpose of sending it to Rheims to her husband's brother Dr. Allen. They answered that they could not confess to a matter whereof they had no knowledge, even though he were to inflict on them a thousand kinds of torments.

After the servants the next person applied to was Anion, and to him an oath was tendered, along with a command, that he should truly confess whether or no the money which had been delivered to him had been destined for Dr. Allen. To this, after taking the oath, he answered that he had received the money from Mrs. Allen to the intent that, if any misfortune should befall the mother in these ups and downs, he should deliver the money over to the daughters. But in no wise could this testimony be admitted by the rapacious sheriff, who, preferring his own profit to the advantage of the daughters, refused to allow the same Anion to appear hereafter as a witness, unless he gave a promise that he would give evidence in favour of the royal treasury against the daughters, against justice, and against piety.

There lived in the same part of the county Mistress Aloysa Haddock, a spinster of excellent family, and daughter to the eminent confessor of Christ, the right worshipful gentleman, Mr. Haddock of Cottam. Albeit these robbers were aware and saw with their own eyes she was harrassed with grievous infirmity, and was frequently subject to epileptic fits, and on that account had promised to have her in the custody of a certain neighbouring gentleman, who made petition to that effect; nevertheless, when, in opposition to their own impious speeches and Calvinian revilings hurled against the Roman pontiff, they heard her uttering prayers to God in behalf of his holiness, they fell into such a blazing fury, that in utter disregard of the promise they had made and of the renewed entreaties of her friends, they absolutely determined to cast the maiden into prison unless she would join them in their scurrilous abuse of Christ's vicar, and would beg pardon of her queen, that is of the pontiff of the English, for so horrible a misdeed, namely, having prayed for his holiness, which impiety this most religious gentlewoman was so far from acced-

ing that, on the contrary, she did not hesitate to repeat in their hearing, and with much more firmness and fervour, the selfsame prayers for the Roman pontiff, and for all Catholic priests living under his obedience. And so, abating nothing by reason of the savage howlings of these raving wretches, she was prepared to bear with lofty and courageous mind the rest of the cruel usage wherewith they threatened her. She was a maiden truly worthy of the noble race of Haddock, which has the glory of producing two confessors, her father and the elder son, and one martyr, George Haddock, the younger son, all of them most holy priests of Christ.

Matters were going on in the manner that we have described, when the pious and many-wise afflicted widow, perceiving that the stay of her adversaries in her house was much longer than she had expected it to be, began to grow exceedingly anxious, not now for her money, house, or furniture, but for her daughters, maidens of the most excellent breedings, whom she saw left as it were to the claws of lions, and to the savageness of gluttons and tipplers. Accordingly, looking in the first place to God, she begged of Him with earnest and fervent prayer that He would vouchsafe to snatch from the lion's mouth those tender pledges, dearer to her than her life, and to defend them under the shadow of His wings from the face of the wicked who afflicted them ; in the next place, that she might not appear to despise human aids, she followed such methods of delivering her daughters from their peril as her good judgement could afford her amid so many perplexities, and in the distressed condition of her affairs, moreover the maidens themselves imitated their mother's zeal and prudence, for when they had perceived from the impious actors in this barbarous proceeding, and from their threatening words, that they were to be removed elsewhere, where they would be taught a different mode of living, believing and worshipping God from what they had hitherto been accustomed to under their mother, having, equally with their pious mother, a concern for their salvation, they eagerly strove after every opportunity to



escape, especially as they had already learned from various examples how dangerous a thing it would be to fall into the hands of the heretics at such a sorrowful time.

The fourth day had now dawned since the mother and daughters were burthened with this heavy anxiety, when the sheriff's deputy had determined to remove the maidens on that day to the sheriff's house, and the thing would have been done had not the most merciful God delivered them from the snare of the hunters. For as the deputy, when about to depart, had left the charge of removing the damsels to some of his own followers, these men, being in no great hurry to go away, but putting off their journey for several days, furnished the maidens with an opportunity of devising an escape. Accordingly, after holding discussion among themselves, as far as the time allowed, it seemed to all of them an excellent plan to get hold of the keys of the outer door. To that intent therefore they each kept watch, and at length they obtained their will. For one day (the other people not having the slightest suspicion of any such design) they carried off the keys and hid them away, and so were in the position that at night time the door could only be shut by a bolt pushed to on the inward side, which would hinder access from without, but could be moved back with ease by anybody within. Without delay, having got so good an opportunity of escaping, the maidens in the dead of night, whilst all lay buried in slumber, drew back the bolt and opened the door, and hastened to the nearest ferry, where they embarked in a boat, which they had found as it were made ready for them by God's providence, and immediately crossed over to the other side of the river, and thence wandering along by-ways, and scarce daring to trust themselves to any one's hospitality on account of the cruelty of their adversaries who were in pursuit of them, and who searched into every corner, they at length reached their mother, whom they found wavering between hope and fear, after a fortnight's pitiable wandering.

Here the good mother, having embraced her dear children, began to consider by what method she could help them, de-

spoiled as they were of all their possessions and of their noble patrimony. The thought occurred to her, to ask certain gentlemen and friends of hers, to whom she had aforetime made a gift of all her property in trust for the use of her daughters, that they, in faithfulness to God and to her afflicted children, would vouchsafe to assist the orphans in this extreme necessity, as they had promised to do. But from these she could obtain nothing, except a new occasion of grief. For, as if dreading greatly in this affair a dangerous rock on which the breezes of human favour might make a shipwreck, and utterly regardless of friendship, kindred, neighbourhood, piety, promise, or public faith, they plainly refused to attempt anything in behalf of the maidens until they should see what the law would decide upon the whole matter; just as if they were to say that they would be their friends and protectors only so long as they did not need their help and assistance.

But God, who is wont to comfort the oppressed in their worst extremity, was not lacking to the pious matron in this trouble of herself and of her children; nay, He supplied them with other faithful advocates and friends, namely, certain gentlemen with whom equity and justice was nearer to their hearts than the good will and favour of men. These therefore went to the high sheriff, and admonished him to attempt nothing against the ordering of the laws or the consideration of justice in the cause of the widowed gentlewoman, and at the same time they informed him that the money, furniture, title-deeds of paternal inheritance and of other lands, which had been carried away and confiscated by him to the queen, was the property of the daughters, and not of the mother, and therefore, even though the mother might be proscribed as an outlaw (which they affirmed was not yet sufficiently clear), yet the daughters on that account ought not, nor could they by any legal process be despoiled of their property or bereft of their patrimony. To these gentlemen the sheriff said that he would appoint twelve men, who should determine, according to the custom of the country and the laws of the realm, to whom the property should belong then and in time to come.

The day appointed for the trial was the 24th January, when judgement should be pronounced at Manchester ; and many had entirely persuaded themselves that the hapless daughters would recover their property, when, in the meantime, not a few of their friends who were endued rather with human than divine wisdom, and who were exceedingly intimate with those twelve men to whom the settlement of the cause had been committed, endeavoured with many arguments to prevail on Mrs. Allen to allow her daughters to come to the court, and to claim back in person their stolen property, which by the laws of England was due and owing to them from their father's will, and their mother's gift "*inter vivos*." But this advice was very displeasing to many Catholics, and especially to Mrs. Allen, who could not, by any force of reasoning, be induced to let her daughters fall again into the grip of the wolves. For this most prudent woman saw, and had now learned by the great persecution of many years, that her daughters would not be heard by the judges sitting on the bench, until they should first promise to go to the synagogues of the Calvinists, and that if they refused this they would either at once be consigned to prison, or along with their mother be stripped of all their possessions. She therefore chose six gentlemen, attached to her by long-standing friendship, to appear at Manchester in the name of the maidens, and unfold to the jury the account of the whole cause. To these she moreover added four others, born of good family, to testify to the gift of her property, made by her, to her daughters, and to prove it by a public instrument which they had with them.

On the appointed day therefore they assembled at Manchester, both the aforesaid gentlemen and the witnesses in behalf of the maidens, as well as the sheriff and his colleagues ; the sheriff named as foreman of the jury Edmund Fleetwood, who himself alleged some sort of claim to the widow's house, which is called Rosshall, and which formerly belonged to a certain neighbouring monastery ; but which Edmund's father, as he himself asserted, had purchased many years before from Henry VIII. Nay this

Fleetwood, moreover, had several times sought every means of wresting the possession of this house and its lands from Mrs. Allen's hands, although he knew that the term of the lease, which had been granted by the abbot himself to Mrs. Allen's ancestors before the subversion of the monasteries, had not yet expired. For this reason, according to the usage and custom of the laws of England, the friends of the maidens challenged this man as inimical, and prayed that he might be erased from the jury list. But the sheriff said that he was a proper man to pronounce upon the present cause, and that a man was not to be struck off whose assistance the queen had been pleased to use in this affair.

But as he deemed that this answer of his was abundantly sufficient for the challenge made by the complainant, he could not bring his mind to remove the hostile man from the list of jurors, although the advocates and friends of the maidens did more than once object that he was disallowing against the laws and customs of the country. But so utterly bootless were their efforts that, as four-and-twenty jurors were wont to be impaneled in causes of this kind, the sheriff, at his own will and pleasure, added three-and-twenty other jurymen of the like sort, who were evidently under agreement and compact with Fleetwood.

When this was observed by the proxies of the maidens, they then indeed utterly laid aside all hope of obtaining a favourable judgement ; nevertheless, that they might not appear to have left undone any of those things which ought naturally to be done, in the fairest conducted cause, they brought forth the mother's deed of gift, and at the same time produced the four witnesses, men of honourable station, to testify upon oath that this agreement or "*donatio inter vivos*" was made in the same manner as was set forth in the instrument. But all these things the sheriff rejected with the same shamelessness wherewith he had before disposed of the exception, disdaining to hear even witnesses ready to assert the truth, lest (as he said) he should appear to show favour to Papists, traitors, and enemies of the commonwealth ; but he said that he would gladly hear them in case they would speak in her

majesty's behalf. Here some of the gentlemen, who managed the cause of the afflicted children, informed the sheriff that among other writings carried away from Mrs. Allen's house was the lease of a certain farm called Toderstaffe, which Mr. Richard Allen, uncle to the maidens, had given as a gift to the two younger ones before his death ; therefore they earnestly begged that it might be given back for their support, but in this petition also, as in the rest, they met with a refusal from the unrighteous sheriff, who declared that not even this should be granted to the queen's enemies.

As, therefore, those gentlemen who acted as proxies for the maidens saw that there was no room left for justice in that court, under this most abandoned man, they thenceforth held their peace and left the whole determination of the cause to the jurors, who, that they might seem to keep up some appearance of law, withdrew for awhile as if to commune upon the business, though the mind and instructions of the sheriff had already taught them what verdict they should bring in. In the meantime, while they were maintaining this show in the apartment or place of consultation, Anion, the host of Mrs. Allen, as we have before said, roused to indignation at the baseness of the transaction, made his way to the same place, and exhorted them, first, that they should see the fear of God before their eyes, and come to a fair and a just award, and next, that they should remove out of their body certain mistrusted men, whom he enumerated by name, and especially Fleetwood, the foremost adversary, and notoriously so of Mrs. Allen and her daughters. But in vain was the good man's labour with them whose eyes were utterly blinded with the greed of their own gain and the dread of offending their sovereign, for after a short delay in the conference room, they sallied forth together, and in the name of all of them Fleetwood, the spokesman, declared their finding as follows : Whereas the children, in whose name this suit is instituted, are not here present, we declare that they are either deceased, or else are fled the realm, and therefore are accounted as civilly dead. Whence it

followeth that whatsoever property hath been found, the same doth all belong to the mother, and not to the children : and since the mother hath been proclaimed an outlaw, we adjudge that all the property doth appertain to the crown and ought thither to revert.

The jurors, therefore, having given their verdict, the sheriff, with scarce any delay, betook himself to both houses of the widow, the one called Rossehall, and the other called Toderstaffe, and thence caused all the cattle to be driven away, and the other goods and chattels to be carried off, and with them the leases and deeds, also the ornaments of the girls, and the remainder of the feminine toilet and wardrobe, because they were not present in person to claim their own property.

But since the royal officers alleged this reason for their robbery, namely, that Mrs. Allen had been indicted, condemned, and proscribed as one outside the law's pale, and thus had been justly deprived of the possession of all her property by verdict of a jury, the prudent matron made endeavour, through her friends, to get a copy of this indictment and outlawry, not doubting but that in the proceedings there would easily be detected some error, whence, according to English law, she could take occasion of restoring her own and her children's cause against the adverse parties. But here also the unrighteous sheriff turned a deaf ear, alleging a decree and order of the queen and privy council, by authority whereof he affirmed he had hitherto acted throughout the affair. Finally, as it was indisputable that the excellent mother had at length tried every method of aiding her children, she prepared a humble memorial to the privy council, both that the councillors (as they were on other occasions wont to pretend with foreign princes and nations, when they were charged with this monstrous tyranny and barbarous bloodthirstiness) might not feign ignorance of the matter, and, also, that she might demand of them, if to be had from any tribunal at all in England, the justice and equity against the violence of their adversaries wherewith they might relieve her and the fatherless maidens

But William Cecil, high treasurer of the kingdom, whom she chiefly supplicated, and who had the habit of money-loving no less than the thieves of lower grade of whom we have hitherto treated, gave the pious widow and her children not much more hope of equity or pity than the rest of the robbers. So that out of the whole of this persecution by law proceedings, the distressed matron noted these two things: firstly, that the higher the rank and dignity of those whom she supplicated, so much the greater was the cost and heavier the labours she fruitlessly underwent, both by herself and by gentlemen who were her friends; next, that the more wrongfully men saw that she was dealt with, so many the more Calvinian rulers were found who longed after the plunder.

For when the widow and her children were cut off from every method of regaining possession of the stolen property, in the first place the sheriff, with his partner Worsley, claimed for themselves the whole booty, as a reward for the obedience they had shown towards the queen's majesty, and by reason of their office they entered into the earliest possession thereof.

Afterwards, two ladies affirmed that it belonged to themselves, by a general grant made by the queen's majesty of all property which should accrue to the royal treasury, in the county of Lancaster, through the outlawry of persons convicted. And with these claimants, indeed, the sheriff would gladly have settled the business, asserting that in their name he had carried off the whole booty. But behold, one Baptist, a pensioner of the royal palace, spread it abroad that the queen had bestowed on him all the property of the widow and children, under the title of wages and reward; nevertheless, on condition that he should carefully look after the tender maidens, and cause them to be honourably brought up. For so did it please the governors of England to cover their robberies and Turkish plunderings with the cloak of pretended piety, while declaring to the public that it was to be accounted a work of great mercy and piety, if the sovereign should cause innocent children and tender maidens, piously bred

in the Catholic faith, to be torn from their parents and delivered over to abominable Calvinists, that they may learn from them the doctrine of their impure and bloody gospel, and at the same time breathe from their earliest years the cruel spirit of Calvin, which cost them the loss of all their property.

To these claimants was added William Cecil, treasurer of the kingdom, and though he was the last to strive for it, nevertheless, as he approached the booty, fortified by authority and armed with crafty counsel, he easily imposed silence on all the rest of the competitors ; on the widow and daughters, inasmuch as they had been lawfully deprived by the finding of the jurors (against which there could be allowed no appeal) ; on the sheriff of the county and on Worsley, inasmuch as they had executed their parts in virtue of their office, for which they have the ordinary fee from the sovereign, and therefore they ought not to look for aught else, unless the queen's majesty should chance to bestow on them something else of inferior value, and that spontaneously ; also, on the ladies, inasmuch as the grant made them was to be understood of property which should be confiscated by the laws at the time when the grant was made, but not those which should afterwards be established, such as were the laws just lately passed against Papists on account of religion. Finally, he shut Baptist's mouth also, asserting that the promise made to him by the queen was for a reward of five hundred pounds only, but not for the widow's property, which was worth over three thousand pounds.

In this way Cecil, in a short time, brought it about that the sheriff of the county, who held all this property in his hands, was summoned to London by a royal messenger. As the sheriff was hindered by gout from proceeding thither, he sent his son in his name, together with Worsley, his deputy, and they had no sooner made their appearance than they were thrown into prison until they promised, under recognizances, that they would give an exact account of all receipts to the queen's treasurer, William Cecil, who reserved to himself, at any rate, the biggest share of what could be recovered, for other thieves also, of lesser rank, were accomplices in this monstrous robbery.



Finally, the matron of proven virtue, the gentlewoman formerly rich, but now reduced to poverty for Christ's sake, and bereft of all the advantages of this life, even of the hope of advantages so far as they could be looked for from England, and perceiving now no way of recovering her property from the hands of the powerful in iniquity, giving thanks with her great and unconquered soul unto God, who "maketh poor and enricheth, bringeth low and lifteth up," determined, together with her two elder children, to depart from her native land, in which she had endured so much wrong, and from her kinsfolk and her father's house, even as the great Abraham, and to go forth into the land which the most merciful God should point out to her, "rather choosing to be afflicted with the people of God, than to have the delight of temporal sin, counting the reproach of Christ as greater riches than the treasury of the English." Therefore, looking with her whole mind to God, the rewarder, she left England, not fearing the eager cruelty of the queen, nor feared she, being a woman pre-eminent with fame of holiness, to spend her life in a strange land, knowing that she and her daughters would have many good things, if they feared God and acted well, withdrawing themselves from sin and Calvinian faithlessness, and serving God in His holy Church with lowly heart and pure intent.

After passing through many hardships and perils innumerable by land and sea, during two months and more, wherein they were compelled at night-time to accomplish long journeys, and at day-time to lurk in woods and thickets, or other secret places, Mrs. Allen at length reached Rheims in safety, with her two elder daughters, to the consolation of herself, of her friends, and of the most illustrious house of Guise, as also of the foremost prelates and nobles of the Rhemish church and city, also of all the English who there lived in exile for Christ's sake, and especially of Dr. Allen, her husband's brother, on whose account she underwent a great deal of this bitter sorrow.

Therefore, now there in the enjoyment of their holy society, and having at length gotten the long wished for freedom of con-

John A  
Rossall.  
before 1  
Bailiff  
all. Wil  
6 April,

George Allen of  
Rossall, gentle-  
man, born about  
1529 : died 9  
Aug. 1579.

John Allen  
of Rossall,  
born 1554.  
[Died. . . .  
see p. 130.]

it appears that he was seised of Rossall Grange, the manor of Laton, and divers lands in Northbrecke, Warbreck, Holmes, Norcrosse, and other places in Poulton and Bispham, he is described as "formerly of London but late of Vache Park." The marriage settlement on his second marriage was dated 24 June, 1563.<sup>1</sup> He left a will (which has not been preserved) by which he appointed Bridget his wife executrix.<sup>2</sup>

By his first wife he had issue : 1 Edmund, of whom hereafter ; 2 Robert, died before his father ; 3 Francis, died before his father ; 4 Margaret. By his second wife he had fourteen children, viz.: 1 Sir William Fleetwood who held the manor of Laton ; in 1574 he was described as of Eyton, county Bedford,<sup>3</sup> and in 1583 was living at Hesketh in Lancashire,<sup>4</sup> and subsequently at Cranbard in Middlesex. He married Jane, sister of John, Lord Clifton, and had a numerous issue, amongst whom were Sir Miles Fleetwood, knight, receiver of the court of wards ; Sir William Fleetwood,<sup>5</sup> whose son Charles married Bridget, the daughter of Oliver Cromwell, and widow of Henry Ireton. Sir William Fleetwood was a most prominent figure in the civil wars, he is commonly known as Lord Fleetwood. It is not known for certain that he had issue by Cromwell's daughter, but there appears little reason to doubt that the late Colonel Chester<sup>6</sup> was right in believing that the child Anne Fleetwood, whose body was disinterred at Westminster Abbey by royal warrant in September, 1661, was a grandchild of the Protector. Bridget Fleetwood was buried at St. Anne's, Blackfriars, London, 1 July, 1662.<sup>7</sup> 2 Edward, parson of Wigan in 1585 ; 3 Thomas ; 4 Francis ; 5 Sir George Fleetwood of Vache, he married Katherine, daughter of Henry Denny of Waltham in Essex, and died 21 December, 1620, he had issue eight sons (one

<sup>1</sup> Record office, xii., 2 Eliz. ; this document is nearly unreadable.

<sup>2</sup> Duchy Pleadings, 89, F. 2.

<sup>3</sup> Deeds of Fayles' estate.

<sup>4</sup> Duchy Records, Pleadings, 89, F 2.

<sup>5</sup> He or his father held Laton in 1642 (deeds of that date) and then lived at Elinge.

<sup>6</sup> Westminster Abbey Register, p. 522.

<sup>7</sup> There is a tradition that she was buried in Bispham Church.

of whom, James, was bishop of Worcester) and six daughters ; 6 Henry ; 7 Michael ; 8 Anne and six others who probably died young.

EDMUND FLEETWOOD of Rossall, the eldest son of Thomas Fleetwood was twenty-eight years old at the time of his father's death in 1570, and he succeeded to the Rossall property, the manor of Laton going to his brother William. He married Elizabeth, daughter of John Cheney of Chesham Boys in the county of Bucks. He died about 1622 (and was probably buried at Bispham), the *inq. post mort.* being taken at Preston on 23 September, in that year ; he was seised of Rossall Grange and two messuages and land in Thornton, with lands in Norbreck, Bispham, Laton, Marton and Poulton, he also had acquired the right of presentation to the vicarage of Poulton. His widow did not long survive him, her will was dated 14 October, 1624,<sup>1</sup> the following is the substance of it : "Her body to be buried in Bispham church. To Elizabeth Fleetwood, daughter of her son Paul Fleetwood, £3. To her son Edmund Fleetwood, 20 nobles. To her son Edward Fleetwood, £6. To her daughter Anne Fleetwood 20 nobles. To Bridget Butler, daughter of her son-in-law Robert Butler, £20. To her cousin Edmund Cheney, 30s. The rest to her son Edward whom she appoints executor." After her death Rossall Hall was held by her two sons Robert and Edmund.<sup>2</sup> Edmund Fleetwood had issue :

1. Paul, of whom hereafter.
2. Edmund Fleetwood, married Elizabeth, daughter of John Tempest of the county of York ; he lived for some years at Skip-pool in Poulton, and was buried at Bispham, 17 April, 1648. He had issue George and Elizabeth, and probably other children. He held a moiety of Rossall Hall.
3. Thomas Fleetwood is named as third son of Edmund Fleetwood of Rossall in a bill of pleading in the duchy court as living in 1599. His name is omitted by Dugdale and St. George.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Harl. add. MSS., 32, 115.

<sup>2</sup> Excheq. Dep. by Com. 1657, Easter, No. 32 Lanc.

<sup>3</sup> Duchy Records, vol. 170, F 17, 42 Eliz.

4. Robert Fleetwood is also named in 1559, he settled at Wesham in Kirkham, and married Mary, the daughter of . . . . Breres of Lathom. He was buried at Kirkham 19 March, 1641-2, and his widow in the June following; they had issue: Edmund, who was 37 years old in 1664, and possibly other children. He passed a moiety of the lands of Rossall to Reginald Heber.<sup>1</sup> (See p. 162.)

5. Edward Fleetwood, vicar of Kirkham. (See *Hist. of Kirkham*, p. 77.)

6. Francis Fleetwood, said to have died unmarried. He may have been the Francis Fleetwood described as of the Middle Temple, London, gentleman, in a deed of assignment of a messuage in the parish of St. Andrew.<sup>2</sup>

7. Bridget Fleetwood was married at Poulton, 20 October, 1601, to Richard,<sup>3</sup> the son of William Burgh of Larbrick, in Kirkham; she died before 1637, without issue. (See *History of Kirkham*, p. 182.)

8. Elizabeth Fleetwood married Sir George Philpot of Hampshire.

9. Anne Fleetwood married, 9 November, 1601, at Poulton, Robert Butler of Rawcliffe, and had issue.

10. Barbara Fleetwood was married at Poulton, 26 June, 1615, to Richard, the son of Robert Newsham of Newsham Hall, in Goosnargh.

PAUL FLEETWOOD, eldest son of Edmund Fleetwood of Rossall, was 46 years old in 1622, and was therefore born in 1576. He married, (1st,) Jane, the daughter of Richard Argall of the county of Kent, and after his marriage he went to live at Hackensall, and afterwards purchased the manors of Preesall and Hackensall; he does not appear at any time to have occupied Rossall. He was knighted between 1622<sup>4</sup> and 1629. In the latter

<sup>1</sup> Excheq. Dep. by Com. 1657, Easter, No. 32 Lanc.

<sup>2</sup> Deed in author's possession.

<sup>3</sup> The Poulton register gives "Burrowes." St. George (in 1613 *Visitation*) gives "Burgh," which is correct.

<sup>4</sup> In Preston Guild Roll of that year he is described as "Arm."

year he was engaged in a law suit, in which he was the defendant, and his brothers Edward and Robert were plaintiffs, who pleaded that Sir Paul retained in his hands their portions of the estate of their late father. As a consequence of this action, the manors of Hackensall, Presall, and Rossall were extended for the debts of Sir Paul.<sup>1</sup> He appears to have lost his case, as Rossall passed to his two brothers, with whom he joined in borrowing a sum of money on bond, with some of the lands above-named as security, from Sir Thomas Lucy, knight, who sued them for the amount in 1633.<sup>2</sup> In May, 1645, his wife died, and was buried at Bispham (on the 5th), being described in the register as "Lady Fleetwood of Hackinsall."

Sir Paul married, (2nd), Anne, sister of Ralph Baskell, as appears from an indenture dated 2 March, 1652, between Paul Fleetwood of Rossall, knt., on the one part, George Middleton of Leighton, Robert Rawlinson of Cartmel, Esqrs., and Charles Foster of Hackensall, gentleman, on the other part, which witnessed that Sir Paul, in consideration of the natural love and affection which he had for Margaret and Anne Fleetwoode, daughters of him by dame Anne his then wife, and for their better maintenance, he granted to the said George Middleton, Robert Rawlinson, and Charles Foster, all those his manors of Layton and Great Marton, and other lands in Bispham, to the intent that they should, after his decease, convey the same to his son Richard Fleetwood, he first having paid £200 to the said Margaret and Anne, £50 to Paul, the eldest son of Francis Fleetwood, younger son of Sir Paul, £100 to Francis Fleetwood, £20 to Benjamin Foster, youngest son of Charles Foster, and £50 to Ralph Baskell, brother-in-law to Sir Paul, in consideration of the faithful service he had done to him.<sup>3</sup>

For some offence, the nature of which is unknown, Sir Paul

<sup>1</sup> Exchequer Depos. by Commission, 4 Chas. I., Lanc., Michaelmas, No. 7, Record office.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, 8 Chas. I., Lanc., Easter, No. 11, Record office.

<sup>3</sup> Original deed in possession of Mr. Joseph Gillow.

Fleetwood was outlawed. He was alive in April, 1657, but died shortly afterwards,<sup>1</sup> being at the time greatly involved in pecuniary difficulties. His wife survived him. He had issue by the first wife :

1. Edward<sup>2</sup> Fleetwood. He was married on 29 January, 1631, at Marton church (near Skipton-in-Craven), to Everill,<sup>3</sup> one of the daughters of Thomas Heber of Stainton, in the county of York, Esq. In the Preston Guild Roll of 1642, he is described as of Rossall. He had issue five daughters. Mary, married William Worthington of Snidall in Lancashire, Elizabeth, married Thomas Butler of Kirkland, Jane, married John Singleton of Staining, and Ann and Catherine. In 1635, the Poulton registers record the burial of his brother-in-law, "13 Jan., Josiah Habart<sup>4</sup> [Heber], gentleman, of Rossall." Edward Fleetwood died about the year 1646.<sup>5</sup>

In 1657, Everill, the widow of Edward Fleetwood and Reginal Heber, received the profits of a moiety of Rossall hall; in that year several tenants gave evidence to the effect that they paid rent to them for lands forming part of the estate; amongst others, Robert Jolly of Layton, gentleman, aged 45, paid to them 2*s.* and a day's shearing, or 4*d.* in silver.<sup>6</sup>

Everill Fleetwood afterwards married — Rigby.

2. Richard Fleetwood, baptized at Stalmine, 25 October, 1613, he married Ann, the daughter of Thomas Mayo of Beyford Place, Herts. After the death of his brother Edward he succeeded to what was left of the family estates, but his predecessors appeared

<sup>1</sup> Excheq. Deps. by Com., 1657, Easter, No. 32, Lanc.

<sup>2</sup> Dugdale makes this Edmund, and this has been followed by Baines, Raines, and others; from the evidence of the Preston Guild Rolls of 1622 and 1642, it would appear that Edward is correct. The marriage register at Marton furnishes "Mr. Fleetwoode" only; his baptism is not in the register of either Stalmine or Poulton. In Exchequer Deposition by Commission in 1657, he is called "Edmund."

<sup>3</sup> Baptized at Marton, 16 April, 1607.

<sup>4</sup> Heber was usually pronounced "Habar."

<sup>5</sup> Excheq. Dep. by Commission, Lanc., Easter, No. 32.

<sup>6</sup> Excheq. Dep. by Com., 1657, Easter, No. 32.

to have so involved the ancestral acres that a witness in the Exchequer Court in 1657<sup>1</sup> swore that out of them "he believed that he [Richard Fleetwood] got very little clear profit;" another cause which had added to the trouble was the constant over-flowing of the sea at Rossall and Hackinsall, witnesses at the time stated that "by reason of his [Fleetwood's] building up Hackinsall Hall, which was fallen down and ruined, he was a great loser," "that he had lost over £300 since his entry by reason of repairs and the payment of £30 to Mr. Mayo of London," "that Everill Rigby & Reginal Heber lost 400 sheep at Rossall, and 7 or 8 years before 500 sheep by the overflow of the sea" [at Rossall]; in 1656 the overflow had caused a loss of "54 beasts & 11 horses," whilst "some of the premisses were totally lost and never recovered, the loss last year [1655] amounting to £200 in a half year"; great expense had also been incurred by the re-building of Layton windmill, and "building up the seabank."

In 1669 Richard Fleetwood was living at Hackensall; he had issue two sons,<sup>2</sup> Edward, living in 1662, Paul, who was baptized at Poulton, 25 December, 1663, and a daughter Margaret, all of whom died in infancy.

3. Francis Fleetwood, of whom hereafter.

4. William Fleetwood, baptized at Stalmine, 21 October, 1621, his name is on the Guild Roll of 1622, but not on that of 1642.

5. Elizabeth Fleetwood, married at Stalmine, 28 October, 1635, to Patrick Garden,<sup>3</sup> an Irishman.

6. Marie Fleetwood, married at Stalmine, 6 May, 1636, to Robert Shaw of High Bullock, vicar of Cockerham, and father of George Shaw, vicar of Poulton. (See p. 76.)

By his second wife, Sir Paul Fleetwood had issue two daughters, Margaret and Anne, who were both living in 1652. (See p. 161.)

<sup>1</sup> Exchequer Q.R. Dep. 1657, Easter No. 32, Lanc. For full extract of this see "Excheq. Dep. by Com." (Record Society of Lanc. and Ches.)

<sup>2</sup> Preston Guild Rolls, 1662.

<sup>3</sup> Registers give "Gordon," Dugdale gives "Grogan."



*Francis Fleetwood*, third son of Sir Paul, was baptized at Stalmine, 25 January, 1617-18. He married Mary, the daughter of Charles Foster of Preesall; it is doubtful if he ever lived at Rossall. He died before 1682; he left no will, but letters of administration were granted in 1684, and he was therein described as of Preesall. He had issue: 1 Paul Fleetwood, baptized at Stalmine, 18 October, 1650, died before 1664-5; 2 Richard Fleetwood (of whom presently); 3 Edmund, an attorney of Poulton; he married Prudence Barton, — June, 1690, and died before 1710, having issue a daughter Mary, living in 1710, and a daughter Prudence, who died in August, 1727; 4 Elizabeth Fleetwood, died unmarried and was buried at Poulton 31 January, 1710-11. Her will, dated 25 September, 1710, was not proved until 14 June, 1733; in it she leaves £20 to Mary, daughter of her brother Edmund Fleetwood, deceased, also her wearing apparel; to her niece, Fleetwood Farrington, wife of Robert Farrington of London, gentleman, she gives £5; to Richard, son of her kinsman Timothy Hall, clerk, £20; to her niece, Lydia Taylor, wife of James Taylor of Liverpool, mariner, £5; her "affectionate kinsman," Timothy Hall, she made executor. Her goods, according to the inventory, were worth £64 13s. 2d.; she is described as "spinster."

*Richard Fleetwood*, son and heir of Francis Fleetwood, married at Leyland, 16 June, 1674, Margaret, daughter and heiress of Edward Fleetwood of Leyland, Esq. Richard Fleetwood, for some years, lived at Leyland, but afterwards removed to Rossall. He was the patron of Bispham church, and owned the chancel.<sup>1</sup> He died at Rossall 21 December, 1709, and was buried at Poulton on the 27th. His widow was buried there on 20 February, 1719. His name is engraved on a stone over the family vault in Poulton church. (See p. 45.) Previous to 1699 we have no record of a Fleetwood of Rossall being buried at Poulton. He had issue:

1 Samuel Fleetwood. He is named in the Preston Guild of 1682. He died in infancy.

<sup>1</sup> In 1704, he granted permission for a burial in his "owne chancel." [Bispham registers.]

2 Edward Fleetwood, of whom presently.

3 Paul Fleetwood, baptized at Leyland, 9 August, 1688 ; after his father's death he went to live at Wharles in Kirkham. He married Mary . . . . and was buried at Kirkham, 7 May, 1727, he had issue : 1 Paul, baptized 14 May, 1711 ; in 1742 he was described as innkeeper, and in 1762 as a labourer ; he had issue five sons, viz.: Paul, Thomas, Edward, Francis, and Richard. 2 Francis, baptized at Kirkham, 18 July, 1714. 3 Henry, baptized at Kirkham, 20 May, 1717, he had issue a son Paul who was living in 1762.

4 Mary Fleetwood, baptized at Leyland, 12 July, 1675, buried at Poulton, 24 November, 1698.

5 Margaret Fleetwood, baptized at Leyland, 4 December, 1690, married a son of the Rev. Thomas Robinson, vicar of St. Michael's. Thomas Tyldesley in his diary, 30 October, 1712, refers to this : " On our returne found y<sup>e</sup> new marry<sup>d</sup> couple, viz.: Cosin Margaret Fleetwood and parson Robinson, son, merchant."<sup>1</sup>

6 Elizabeth Fleetwood, baptized at Leyland 13 May, 1679.

*Edward Fleetwood*, second son of Richard Fleetwood, was born 13 January, 1682. In early life he practised as an attorney in Ireland, but on the death of his father he returned to Rossall. He married at Bispham, 30 March, 1714, Sarah, youngest daughter of John Veal of Whinney Heys. He died in June, 1737, and was buried (1 July) in the family vault in Poulton church. His widow survived him nearly 30 years, dying in July, 1760, she was at that time living at Preston. He had issue :

1 Richard Fleetwood, baptized at Poulton, 4 September, 1721, and buried there 15 August, 1727.

2 John Fleetwood, baptized 25 September, 1723, buried 19 August, 1727, at Poulton.

3 Margaret, of whom presently.

4 Susanna Fleetwood, baptized 20 August, 1716, died in infancy.

<sup>1</sup> The Tyldesley Diary, p. 60.

5 Susanna Fleetwood, born in October, 1718, buried at Poulton 18 May, 1777.

6 Veal Fleetwood, born 11 July, 1720, died in July 1737, unmarried.

*Margaret Fleetwood*, the eldest daughter of Edward Fleetwood, was baptized at Bispham, 5 April, 1715. She was married at Bispham, 16 September, 1733, to Roger Hesketh of North Meols, Tulketh (and afterwards of Rossall Hall), Esq. He died 16 June, 1791, aged 81, and was buried at North Meols. His wife was buried at Poulton, 11 July, 1752. They had issue a daughter, Sarah Hesketh, who died 18 August, 1824, and was buried at St. Michael's, and a son

*Fleetwood Hesketh*, who was born 1 July, 1738, and was buried at Poulton, 27 April, 1769, his father being then alive, and at whose death in 1791 the Rossall estate passed to Bold Fleetwood Hesketh (the eldest son of Fleetwood Hesketh), who dying unmarried 2 July, 1819 (aged 57), was succeeded by his brother, Robert Hesketh of Wennington Hall, Melling, in the county of Lancaster, who was born 18 April, 1764, and died 22 March, 1824, and was buried at Poulton.<sup>1</sup> He married, at Lancaster, 11 September, 1790, Maria, the eldest daughter of Henry Rawlinson of that town, she died 3 July, 1824, and was buried at Poulton. They had issue six sons and four daughters.<sup>2</sup> The four elder sons all died unmarried during their father's lifetime, and the estates came to the fifth son, Peter Hesketh, who was born at Melling, 10 August, 1801, and by royal license in 1831 took the surname of Fleetwood in addition to Hesketh. He was one of the first members of parliament for Preston under the Reform Act, being elected in 1832; he represented the borough in four parliaments, retiring in 1847. He was created a baronet in 1838.

<sup>1</sup> Fleetwood Hesketh had two daughters, Hannah Marie, born 11 September, 1760, and Francis Margaret, who died in infancy.

<sup>2</sup> Edward Fleetwood, Henry, Edward Thomas, Robert Fleetwood, Peter Charles (rector of North Meols and Poulton), Francis Elizabeth, Martha Maria, Maria, and Anna Maria = Thomas John Knowlys, Esq.

Sir Peter was the founder of the modern town of Fleetwood. (See p. 35.) He was twice married, first at Dover, 8 June, 1826, to Eliza Debonnaire, daughter of Sir Theophilus John Metcalf of Fern Hill, in the county of Bucks, bart., by whom he had issue a son and several daughters, all of whom died young. He married secondly, Verginie, daughter of Senor Pedro Garcia. In 1844 he vacated Rossall Hall (which was made into a public school); he was the last of the Fleetwoods of Rossall. He died at Brighton in 1864.

The above sketch is an unsatisfactory one, but for want of parish registers (which are missing at Poulton and Bispham), the almost entire absence of wills, and the fact that the title-deeds have been scattered, it is impossible to make it more complete. It is almost certain that one or more descendants of the earlier branches lived in Poulton in the 17th century.

#### LITTLE POULTON HALL.

Behind the farm buildings now known by this name were, until quite recently, the foundations of the old manor house, about which, however, very little information has been handed down to us.<sup>1</sup>

George Hesketh, the younger son of Bartholomew Hesketh of Hesketh, was living here in the 17th century, and his son William succeeded him and married the daughter of John Allen of Rossall<sup>2</sup> by whom he had issue: William and Wilfrid. William Hesketh married Anne the daughter of Hugh Anderton of Euxton. He died about 1627, as appears from a receipt for £60 from Christopher Mather given to "Ann late wife of William Hesketh of Poulton," being the portion of Christopher Mather's wife, who was the daughter of William Hesketh.<sup>3</sup> He had issue several sons

<sup>1</sup> Porter, in his *History of the Fylde*, states that Little Poulton Hall in the 16th century was held by the Curwin and Barbon family, and gives as his authority St. George's Visitation, 1613; the pedigree there recorded refers entirely to a family of Poulton-le-Sands, near Lancaster.

<sup>2</sup> See *History of Kirkham*, p. 196.

<sup>3</sup> Title Deeds.

and daughters, the eldest of whom, Thomas, was in 1677 living here, and on his removal to Mains Hall his eldest son William came to Poulton Hall. A little later (in 1687), there was a John Hesketh of Little Poulton, who probably was the third son of the last-named William Hesketh. The church registers give the burials of two of his daughters, one in 1687 and the other in 1688, both being named "Perpetua" (after their grandmother Perpetua Westby). John Hesketh was buried in April, 1689. The next Hesketh of Little Poulton was Thomas (probably a son of John Hesketh), his daughter Katherine was buried at Poulton in December, 1702. He died in January, 1712-13, and was buried at Poulton. In December, 1751, "Mr. George Hesketh of Little Poulton was buried at the parish church, and in October, 1772, James Lupton of "Little Poulton Hall" was buried. The estate belonging to Little Poulton Hall is now the property of Joseph Fitzherbert-Brockholes, Esq., of Claughton.

#### TODDERSTAFF HALL,

Now a farm-house, is one of those old halls which has seen better days. In the 16th century some of the Allen family lived here (see p. 136), and either owned it or held it on a long lease. In 1597 Thomas Lytham resided here, the parish registers supply the names of several other families connected with Todderstaff, but they were probably only tenants for short terms. The hall now belongs T. H. Miller of Singleton, Esq.

#### THORNTON HALL

Was doubtless at one time the manor house, and here lived for many generations the family to which the township gave its name (see p. 12). The maps of the county in the early part of the 17th century all have marked upon them "Thornton Hall." By deed dated 8 March, 16 Charles II. (1666), the "capital messuage or mansion house called Thornton Hall in Thornton" was conveyed to Edward Shuttleworth (one of the younger sons of Richard Shuttleworth of Gawthorp), in right of his wife Alice, as sole

daughter and heiress of John Woodhouse of Larbrick in the parish of Kirkham.<sup>1</sup> It is at least possible that John Woodhouse was a descendant of Agnes Thornton who was married to William Wodey (? Woodhouse) early in the 15th century (see p. 16). The hall is now a farm-house, and all trace of its former importance is gone.

#### BURN HALL.

In the 38 Henry III. (1254) Roger de Heton held Burn, as in that year William le Boteler was proceeded against for trespass by breaking into Roger's turbary in Brun, [Burn] in Lancashire, and there throwing into a pit the turves which Roger had cut and gathered, and also for ill-treating Roger's men.<sup>2</sup> In 1332 Batty de Brun paid subsidy for land in Thornton (see p. 13).

A century later William de Heton held in Thornton, in a place called Broune, one carve of land in socage, paying yearly 10s. at two terms, with suit to the county and wapentake.<sup>3</sup>

John Westby (the son of William Westby of Mowbrick), who was born about the year 1529, erected or purchased Burn Hall, and lived partly there and partly at Mowbrick, and it was held by his descendants until the beginning of the last century, when it passed to the Rev. J. Bennison, who married Anne, one of the daughters of Thomas Westby of Mowbrick. Mr. Bennison ruined himself with an attempt to cultivate his property on the plan laid down in Virgil's Georgics. Burn Hall (or Bourne Hall) subsequently passed to the Fleetwoods,<sup>4</sup> and it is now in the possession of the trustees of the estate of Mr. Horrocks of Preston.

Thornber, writing in 1837,<sup>5</sup> stated that a few years before that time there was in perfect preservation in Burn Hall a domestic chapel, but that the oaken wainscoat, carved shields, small statues and foliage, had been demolished "in order to preserve the cheese

<sup>1</sup> Larbrick Title Deeds.

<sup>2</sup> *Abbreviatio Placitorum*, p. 142.

<sup>3</sup> Chet. Soc., vol. lxxiv. p. 57.

<sup>4</sup> From 1709-30 Alexander Parker of Bradkirk lived here, and in 1731 J. Bennison. *History of Blackpool*, p. 312.

room, into which the apartment had been converted, from the in-roads of rats"; there was, however, then remaining the ceiling ornamented with vine leaves and clusters of grapes, and an inscription in old characters on an oaken slab nailed over the mantle-piece: "Elegi abjectus esse in Domo Dei mei, magis quam habitari in tabernaculis peccatorum."

#### CARLETON HALL.

All trace of this old hall has long since disappeared, but the ruins of it were not many years ago to be seen in a field near the farm house now known as "Gezzerts" or "Gazettes"; at one time it must have been a building of some pretension, and was for many generations the manor house of Carleton.

The Carleton family held land in Carleton from a very early period (see p. 17). In the 13th century Matilda de Karlton, widow, held lands here of the Priory of St. John the Baptist<sup>1</sup> (Chester). As witnesses to various charters of this century, contained in the *Coucher Book of Whalley*, appear William de Carleton, knt., and Walter de Carleton, and from a charter of about the same period it appears that Walter de Carleton, son of William de Carleton, knt., granted to his son and heir William all the lands which he held in Inskip and Norbrec and elsewhere of Richard le Botiller; this is witnessed by Alan de Syngleton and Henry de Lee.<sup>2</sup>

In 1281 Richard le Botiller of Rawcliffe married Alicia, the daughter of William de Carleton, and thus became possessed of the manor of Inskip. In the subsidy roll of 1332 there appears for Carleton (see p. 18), Godrich de Carleton and Adam del Halle. Henry de Carleton and Margaret are parties to deed refering to lands in Carleton, dated Wednesday next after the feast of St. Lawrence, 22 Edward III. (A.D. 1343). This Henry de Carleton had a son John, who was living in 1381.

The manor of Carleton, in the 14th century, was held in fee as

<sup>1</sup> Dodsworth MSS., 142, T 74.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, 144, T 127.

of the manor of Wyresdale, and in 20 Edward III. (1346-7); Henry de Carleton held four and a half carves of land here,<sup>1</sup> and there is little doubt but that for the next two centuries the Carletons were the lords of the manor and lived at Carleton Hall.

Henry de Carleton, who may have been, and probably was, the son of the last-named, by his charter, dated at Carleton on the feast of the nativity of the Virgin, 8 September, 1412, confirmed to Robert de Syngleton a yearly rent of £3. 6s. 8d. out of his lands in Lancashire.<sup>2</sup> There was then living a Lawrence Carleton, whose daughter Margaret granted to Edmund Owytacre and Thomas de Newton a messuage and half an oxgang of land in Pulton Parva.<sup>3</sup> From a deed dated the day before the feast of St. Lawrence, 1 Henry V. (9 August, 1413), Robert de Syngleton leased for six years certain lands and a mill in Little Carleton, which he had from Henry de Carleton, at a rent of five marks and 11s. 7d. per annum.<sup>4</sup>

Concerning the children of this Henry de Carleton there is no evidence, but the next representative of the family was THOMAS CARLETON. In 16 Henry VI. (1437-8), Richard Butler and Robert Adlyngton granted a messuage and land in Carleton to John Worthington, son of Alexander Worthington of Crawshagh, with remainder to Thomas Carleton.<sup>5</sup> About this time a Lawrence Worthington of Croshaw married a daughter of one of the Carletons. (St. George's Visitation.)

By charter dated 16 July, 9 Henry V. (1422), John Bredkyrke and Thomas Pateson, chaplains, conveyed to Elizabeth, the widow of Robert Clifton, certain messuages and lands in the "vil of Carleton" for her life, with remainder to George, son and heir of Thomas Carleton.<sup>6</sup> At this time the family was rather a numerous one, and some of its members appear to have served in the king's army in France, as on 16 July, 8 Henry V. (1421) a writ of *supersedeas* was addressed to the Justices of Lancashire, to

<sup>1</sup> Kuerden *MSS.*, iv., C. I. b.

<sup>2</sup> Sherburne Deeds.

<sup>3</sup> Sherburne Deeds.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*



"surcease process against William de Tunstall and others, securities for Henry de Carleton, Esq., senr., Henry de Carleton, junr., Thomas de Carleton, gent., and William de Carleton of Northcrosse, bastard, who were absent in the king's service in parts of Aquitain."<sup>1</sup>

The process which was thus stayed was probably for debt, as, in the August following, a precept was issued to the escheator for the county to surcease enquiry respecting the goods and chattels of Henry de Carlton, whom the king had pardoned outlawry pronounced against him on the hustings of London, on the plea of debt, at the suit of Robert Berryngton, citizen and tailor of London, and Sir William Hoghton, knt.<sup>2</sup> Probably this process was more satisfactory to the king than it was to the tailor.

Early in 15th century there was a William Carleton, who married Katherine, daughter of William de Thornton.<sup>3</sup>

Before 1445, Thomas Carleton was dead, and was succeeded by his son, GEORGE CARLETON, who, by charter dated at Carleton on the feast of St. John the Baptist, 23 Henry VI., conveyed all his lands in Lancashire to certain trustees.<sup>4</sup>

George Carleton, 1451, held lands here for the Abbot of Cockersand (see p. 11). He was living in 1469. He was succeeded by

*Thomas Carleton* (probably his son), who granted in 16 Edward IV. (1476-7) to Richard Botiller and Robert Adlyngton lands and a tenement in Great Carleton and Little Carleton, called Hayholme, and a tenement called Cardals, in Norcross; by another charter, dated at Carleton 20 September, 18 Edward IV. (1478), he confirmed to James Bradshaw of Hagh, and Robert Adlyngton, land in Little Carleton, called the "mylne felde."<sup>5</sup> He died 4 July, 1499, and from his *inq. post mort.* it appears that he was seised of the manor of Carleton in fee, which was held of

<sup>1</sup> 33rd Rep. Dep.-Keeper of Records, p. 18.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> St. George's Visitation, 1613.

<sup>4</sup> Sherburne Deeds.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*

the King, and Margaret, Countess of Richmond, and John Rigmayden, of Wedacre, as of their manor of Nether Wyersdale, by knight's service, and that the manor was worth twenty-four marks a year. His son and heir was

*George Carleton*, who (as he was then twenty-two years old) was born in 1477,<sup>1</sup> on 10 July, 9 Henry (1494), his father, with John Newsam and Richard Latewise, was bound in 100 marks to perform certain covenants contained in a pair of indentures of the same date touching the marriage of his son with Elizabeth, the daughter of Robert Clifton, "lately deceased." The principal condition was that Thomas Carleton should settle upon the bride lands in Carleton and Poulton of the yearly value of four marks.<sup>2</sup> George Carleton died 9 September, 1513, and the *inq. post mort.* taken at Preston 10 January, 1516-17,<sup>3</sup> furnishes the following details: George Carleton, son and heir of Thomas Carleton, deceased, was seised of the manor of Carleton, and of 3 messuages, 20 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, 40 acres of pasture, 20 acres of moor and turbary in Carleton—the manor and these being worth £3. 6s. 8d. per annum. Johanna Carleton, widow of the father of George, held for her life 4 messuages, 40 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, 40 of pasture, 40 of moor and turbary in Carleton and Poulton, being worth £4 a year, and being the gift of her late husband; she also held, in the name of her dower, other messuages and lands of the value of 40s. a year. Elizabeth Carleton, widow of George Carleton, held for her life all those messuages and lands in the tenure of Giles Heyton and William Moche, and a meadow in the town of Poulton called the New Meadow, and another called the Norcroft Meadow, and a messuage in Poulton, which are worth by the year five marks. The reversion of these belonged to William, son and heir of the said George Carleton, and the manor was held of the king and Thomas Rigmayden, and by knight's service.

<sup>1</sup> *Inq. post mort.*, vol. 3, No. 49, Record Office.

<sup>2</sup> Sherburne Deed.

<sup>3</sup> Duchy Record, vol. 4, No. 71.

After the death of George Carleton, Thomas Rigmayden entered into the manor and took the profits.

*William Carleton*, the son and heir of George Carleton,<sup>1</sup> was over eleven years old in 1516-17. Before the year 1538 he was married, as by bond dated 2 October, 30 Henry VIII., he agreed with Sir John Port, knt., Judge of the Common Pleas, to settle upon his wife Jane for her life, as jointure, his manor of Carleton ; and further agreed that he would not alien, charge, or dismantle the said manor longer than for his life, but that it should descend to his right heirs.<sup>2</sup>

In all probability, therefore, the wife of William Carleton was a daughter of Sir John Port of Etwell, in the county of Derby, and her sister Elizabeth married Sir Thomas Gerard of Brynne.<sup>3</sup> In 1539 he granted a lease of the manor for twelve years to Sir John Port. On the back of this deed<sup>4</sup> is a short list of debts owing by William Carleton, to wit—

" To Sir Wylliam Silkok, <sup>5</sup>	xiijs	iijs <sup>d</sup>
„ Edwarde Bamber,	vijli	vjs viijs <sup>d</sup>
„ my Mr. Sir John Porte	xiijsli	
„ the sadler of Warynton		vjs <sup>s</sup> ."

In or about the 2 Edward VI. (1548-9), William Carleton conveyed the hall of Carleton, with its appurtenances, to John Allen of Rossall, to hold the same to the use of the said William Carleton for his life, and after his death to Lawrence Carleton his son and heir apparent, and to Margaret his wife, daughter of George Singleton of Staining, with remainder to their children, and in default of issue, then to Margery Carleton, sister to Lawrence, and her heirs.<sup>6</sup> To carry out this arrangement, by indenture dated 12 January, 4 Edward VI. (1551), he conveyed the hall and the demesne (through George Singleton of Staining) to his son

<sup>1</sup> George Carleton had a daughter, Mary, who married Hugh, second son of George Singleton of Staining. (See Singleton pedigree p. 188.)

<sup>2</sup> Sherburne Deeds.

<sup>3</sup> Dugdale's *Visitation of Lancashire*.

<sup>4</sup> Sherburne Deeds.

<sup>5</sup> Curate of Bispham.

<sup>6</sup> Duchy Pleadings, Eliz., vol. 86, M 16, Record office.

Lawrence, with the proviso that the lands on "the north part of the hall, and from the Church gate as it lieth northward,"<sup>1</sup> were to be held to him, the said William Carleton, for his life; he died before the 20 June, 1554, and the estate descended to his son

LAWRENCE CARLETON, and Margaret his wife, neither of whom survived him more than three years. Lawrence died 28 October, 1557, without issue; shortly after his father's death he, by charter dated 20 June, 1554, granted to William Clifton, gent., and Richard Houghton of Kirkham, gent., the hall and manor for 15 years, to be seised thereof to the uses of his heirs, remainder to William Singleton, son of Hugh Singleton, deceased (see *post*), and his heirs for ever. The manor was now said to be worth £9. 5s. 4d. a year, and held of the king and queen by knight's service.<sup>2</sup> It will be seen from the foregoing evidence that Lawrence Carleton had not the power to grant the manor to anyone, as failing his issue it descended to his sister Margery who had married Thomas Almonde, and was at the time of her brother's death 30 years old, and was declared to be his next heir.

The estate now became the cause of a suit in the Duchy Court<sup>3</sup> in which James Massye was the plaintiff, and John Singleton the defendant. Massye asserted that Thomas Almonde died about twelve years before the action commenced, and that his widow, for divers sums of money, conveyed the premises to him and his heirs for ever; this was denied by John Singleton, who claimed that Margery Almond and William Singleton having died without issue he became entitled to the property at the expiration of fifteen years after the death of Lawrence of Carleton, as cousin and next heir of William Singleton, that is to say, as son of William, brother of Hugh Singleton, father to the said William. The defendant further pleaded that the premises had been assigned to trustees for 15 years after the death of Lawrence Carleton, to the intent that during that term William Singleton was to pay the debts of the said Lawrence out of the profits of the

<sup>1</sup> Sherburn Deeds.

<sup>2</sup> *Inq. post mort.*, Duchy, vol. x. No. 15, Record office.

<sup>3</sup> Pleadings, Eliz., vol. 86, M 16.

estate. The verdict was in favour of the defendant, who died seised of the manor in 1590, and it remained in the possession of this family until early in the eighteenth century, when it passed, as already stated (see p. 18), to Sir Richard Sherburne. In the parish registers of Poulton the name of Carleton does not appear, the family having entirely died out, and shortly afterwards the hall must have been suffered to fall into ruins. In October, 1592, Thomas Kellet de *Carleton Hall* was buried, and this is the last time it is mentioned in the registers.

#### THE BAMBER FAMILY.

The Parish Registers of Poulton between the year 1592 and 1712 contain over 600 entries concerning this family, whilst at Bispham, in the very imperfect registers between 1599 and 1720 the name occurs more than 200 times. In the middle of the 16th century there were at least four or five different branches of this family established in Poulton and Bispham,<sup>1</sup> but the genealogical details about them afforded by the co-temporary records are extremely meagre.

#### BAMBERS OF CARLETON.

The records of the pleadings in the Duchy Court show that on 4 February, 1600-1, James Taylor of Banckfield, husbandman, and Ellinor his wife, one of the daughters of Thomas Hodgson of Little Carleton,<sup>2</sup> yeoman, deceased, was seised of a house and lands in Little Carleton for a term of many years yet to come, of the yearly value of £40; and by his will dated 2 June, 1566, he left his lease and tenement to his wife Katherine and his son John in trust to bring up his children; but if his widow married again, then William Bamber of Little Carleton, yeoman, and John Hull of Layton were to take the custody of his children, John, Margaret, and Agnes Hodgson, and the before-named Ellinor Taylor.

<sup>1</sup> The Bispham branches will be noticed in the History of Bispham.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Hodgson's Will, see chapter VII.

Katherine Hodgson (in 1566-7) married, for her second husband, one Edward Bamber, who forthwith took the profits of the property until his death in or about 1578, when William Bamber, the sole surviving trustee under Thomas Hodgson's will, appointed William Anyon and Robert Rowe as trustees, who, having entered into the property, the complainants, James Taylor and his wife, petition the court for a satisfactory settlement.<sup>1</sup>

In 1565 there was living here an Edmund Bamber, whose wife was named in the Vicar of Poulton's will (see p. 71). This was probably the Edmund of Little Carleton, who was buried at Poulton 8 December, 1607, his wife Jenet having died in December, 1594. About the year 1596 his name occurs in several deeds relating to sale of land in Poulton and Bispham.<sup>2</sup> About the same time there was a Robert Bamber of Carleton and Jenet his wife, whose son Edmund was baptized 25 October, 1594. There was also a William Bamber of Carleton, junr., whose daughter Margaret was baptised 15 March, 1595-6. Another Edmund, the son of John Bamber of Great Carleton, was baptised 13 April, 1597. From one of these descended Edmund Bamber of Carleton, who married at Poulton, 31 October, 1607, Elizabeth Eccleston, and had issue: William, died in infancy; William, baptized 25 March, 1617; Alice and Margery. This last-named William may have been the benefactor to the Carleton School in 1688 (see p. 115).

#### BAMBER OF POULTON.

In the will of John Leetham of Pulton (see p. 193), dated 1563, are named Thomas, Robert, and Isabel Bamber, and the Subsidy Roll of 1580-1 (see p. 12), gives "Robert Bember" as taxed for goods in Great Marton worth *iiij<sup>li</sup> v<sup>s</sup>*. This Robert Bamber<sup>3</sup> died

<sup>1</sup> Vol. 159, T 2, 42 Elizabeth.

<sup>2</sup> Deeds in possession of Mr. W. Asburne of Manchester.

<sup>3</sup> This Robert was probably the son of William Bamber of Layton, who died 12 October, 1597, seised of lands in Layton; his son Robert being then aged 37. (*Inq. post mort.*, vol. xx., No. 1, Record office.)

23 March, 1606-7, seised in fee of a messuage and buildings, sixteen acres of land, four acres of meadow, and twenty acres of moor and moss in Great Marton which he held of the king, as of the duchy of Lancashire, by the 200th part of a knight's fee, and worth 10s. a year; John Bamber his son and heir being then aged fifteen years and one month.<sup>1</sup> This is probably the John Bamber<sup>2</sup> who in 1635 purchased Whinney Clough in Goosnargh: in the purchase deed he is called "merchant of Poulton." His descendants held this estate until 1693.<sup>3</sup>

Thomas Bamber of Poulton (probably the above-named Thomas), married Alice, one of the daughters, and co-heiress of John Massie of Whinney Heys, who, at the time of her father's death in 1619, was thirty years old; her husband died 2 November, 1616, seised in fee of a messuage and twenty-two acres of meadow and pasture in Poulton, three acres of land called Wattmoughes Marsh in Poulton, seven acres of land in Thorneton, and six acres and a barn in Norcrosse, a third part of which, by indenture dated 29 October, 1616, he demised to Edward Veal (his brother-in-law) and James Taylier for a term of six years, in trust for the preferment of his younger children, reserving to himself the power to revoke the lease on payment of 12*d.*

The messuage and tenement in Poulton were held of the king by knight's service of 20th part of a knight's fee, and were worth 20s. a year clear; the land in Norcrosse was worth 10s., but by what service it was held it was not known.

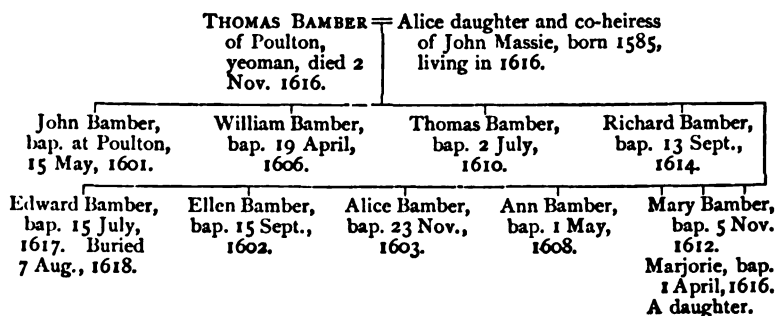
His son and heir, John Bamber, was then aged fifteen years eight months and sixteen days. Alice his wife survived him. The other children were William, Thomas, Richard, Edward, and six daughters.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Inq. post mort.*, vol. xix., No. 87.

<sup>2</sup> A John Bamber of Poulton, gentleman, paid in 1630-32 a fine of £20 for refusing knighthood. (*Composition papers*, Record office.)

<sup>3</sup> See *History of Goosnargh*, p. 179.

<sup>4</sup> *Inq. post mort.*, vol. xxi., No. 16, Record office.



## BAMBERS OF THE MOOR.

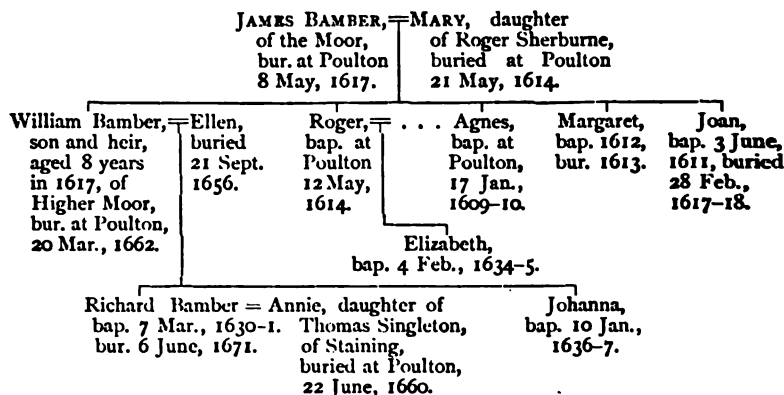
A branch of the Bamber family settled at the Moor in Carleton early in the 17th century, but subsequently the house was divided into two (or a second erected), one being known as the Moor or the Higher Moor, and the other as the Lower Moor.

James Bamber of the Moor died 8 May, 1617, and was buried at Poulton. From his *inq. post mort.*, taken 2 July following, it appears he was seised in fee of three cottages, a barn, and eight acres of land in Poulton, three acres "except two falls" in Great Bispham. The lands in Poulton were held of the heirs of William Gudlane in free socage by a yearly rent of 1s. 2d., payable at Michaelmas, and were worth 6s. 8d. a year; the land in Bispham was held of the king, by knight's service, and was worth 12d. a year.<sup>1</sup> James Bamber's will was dated 30 April, 1617: he desires to be buried "within the church of Poulton," and leaves all his lands, &c., for the education of his children until William, his eldest son, is of age; he appoints Roger Sherburne, his father-in-law, to be their tutor; to Jenet, his wife, he leaves the Moor House "for and in satisfaction of her joynture and dower."<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Record office, vol. 22, No. 91.

<sup>2</sup> Townley MSS., British Museum, Additional MSS., 32, 115.





Richard Bamber of the Moor (who was probably the brother of the James who died in 1617) about the year 1630 paid £10 as composition for refusing to take the order of knighthood.<sup>1</sup> His will, dated 17th January, 1636, was proved at Richmond. He left his estate to John Bamber and Henry Parker, in trust for his children. He left 10s. to Peter White, vicar of Poulton. He had issue :

1. Thomas Bamber of the Moor, married at Poulton 17th Sept., 1622, to Dorothy Proctor of Lancaster ; buried at Poulton, 12 December, 1667.
2. John Bamber was a papist, and in the civil war (in 1642) was appointed a captain over a company raised by Thomas Tildesley of Myerscough.<sup>2</sup> He had a son, Richard, living in 1636.
3. William Bamber, died before 1636 ; he had a bastard son Robert, to whom his father left 20s.
4. Richard Bamber (? baptized at Bispham 27 Sept., 1602).
5. Edward Bamber, a priest, of whom hereafter.
6. Margery, living 1636.
7. Elizabeth, living 1636.
8. A daughter, married before 1636 to William Townend.

<sup>1</sup> Exchequer Book of Compositions, Record office.

<sup>2</sup> *Discourse of the Warr in Lancashire*, Chet. Soc., vol. lxii. p. 21.

The required links to complete the pedigree are missing, but there is evidence enough to show that the family continued to live here for nearly a century later. A Richard Bamber of the Moor had a son James baptised at Poulton, 2 September, 1605, and this was probably the James Bamber whose will was dated 17 November, 1651; in it he is described as "of the Moor, yeo.," and he mentions his brothers, Richard, William, and Thomas. A John Bamber of the Lower Moor, gent., by indenture dated 2 February, 1683, let a cottage in Bispham for nine years, subject to the yearly payment of 5*d.* and "one and a half day's shearing in the time of harvest at the mansion at the Moor."<sup>1</sup>

Edward Bamber, son of Richard Bamber of the Moor (on the authority of Bishop Challoner),<sup>2</sup> after being educated "in his grammar studies at home, was sent abroad into Spain to the college of Valladolid,<sup>3</sup> where he learnt his philosophy and divinity, and was ordained priest. Upon his landing at Dover, falling upon his knees, he gave God thanks for his passage across the seas and safe arrival in his native country, which being observed by the governor of Dover Castle, he suspected him to be a priest, and caused him to be apprehended. He did not deny his character, but pleaded that he had not been upon English land the space mentioned by the statute. Upon this plea he was put on shipboard and sent into banishment. Some time after his second return he was again apprehended in the neighbourhood of Standish, in Lancashire, and was to have been committed prisoner to Lancaster Castle; but on his way thither, being lodged at a place beyond Preston, he found means in the dead of the night (his keepers being in drink) to make his escape out of the window in his shirt. He then went to Broughton Tower, where he was sheltered. However, he fell a third time into the hands of the persecutors, and was committed to the gaol at Lancaster," where he made a further attempt to escape, but was shortly re-captured, and is said to have been three years in prison there

<sup>1</sup> Deeds of "Church Houses," Bispham.

<sup>2</sup> *Memoirs of Missionary Priests*, vol. ii. pp. 162, 256.

<sup>3</sup> In a supplement he is stated to have been "an alumnus of Douay."

before he was tried. On his trial, two witnesses gave evidence that they had seen him administer baptism and perform the marriage ceremony, whereupon he was sentenced "to be hanged, cut down alive, &c.," which sentence was carried out on the 7th August, 1646, at Lancaster. On the way to the scaffold he addressed himself to a felon who was to be executed with him, exhorting him to "boldly confess himself to be a Catholic, and he, a priest and a minister of Jesus Christ, would instantly, in His name and by His authority, absolve him." Edward Bamber, as a priest, went by the alias of Reding.

This narrative is entirely unsupported by any external evidence,<sup>1</sup> and enquiries at the English College of Valladolid elicit the fact that no student of that name is on the books; and at Douay there were only two priests of the name, viz., Richard Bamber, who took the oath in 1731, and John Bamber, a little later in the same year. The former was born in 1713, and the latter in 1712, both being natives of Lancashire.

After the Bammers left "the Moore," Richard Singleton lived there. The registers give the burials of Margaret, his wife (March, 1684), and Anne, his daughter (January, 1692-3).

#### STAINING HALL.

The Grange of Staining is mentioned at a very early date (see p. 28), and on its site was erected Staining Hall, which was purchased by George Singleton from Sir Thomas Holt of Grizzlehurst about the year 1575. A little before this time the "House of Stayning" was described as in length "xxvii. yards, and lofted ow'r and slated. Ye close called the little hey contained half an acre."<sup>2</sup>

The Singleton family derived its name from the township of Singleton, where Alan de Singleton held half a carucate of land

<sup>1</sup> In Dodd's *History of the Church*, vol. iii. p. 92, is a brief paragraph to the effect that Edward Reding was executed 7 Aug., 1646, the authority quoted being "*MS.* in the author's possession."

<sup>2</sup> *Coucher Book of Whalley*, quoting Kuerden *MS.* in the Herald's College.

in 29 Henry III. (1244-45). A century later there were several branches of the family settled in various parts of the county, and a William de Singleton paid 4s. for the subsidy (for possessions in Bispham) in 1332. In 1492 the lands in Staining held by the Abbess of Syon were leased to John de Shyngleton, and in 1539 the farmer of the Amounderness property belonging to the same monastery was George Singleton, from whom descended the Singletons of Staining (see pedigree). Shortly before the dissolution of Syon Monastery in 1539, Thomas Singleton and Eleanor Singleton, widow of Lawrence Singleton, held for a term of years the tithes of corn and sheaves of Pulton (see p. 41), and at the dissolution Constance Singleton, widow, held a messuage and thirty acres of land, paying to the Abbess 30s. a year.<sup>1</sup>

This Constance was the widow of Thomas Singleton,<sup>2</sup> and died in 1595, and was buried at Poulton in the April of that year. William Singleton, the eldest son of George Singleton of Staining, died, according to Dugdale, in 1556-7. The will of his widow was proved at Richmond in 1557. The following is the substance of it :—

“Alis Syngleton, widow, late wyf of William Syngleton of Stayning, 21 Jan., 1557. I bequeath my bodye to the accustomed burial place. I will that James Massie shall have the government of my eldest sone, also of my eldest daughter, together with all her lands and goods, also the marriage of her, upon this condition that she shall marry the eldest son of the said James Massie. He shall also have the government of Richard Syngleton and my other son until he be 21 years old. To Dame Osbaldeston, my aunt, and my cousin . . . Molyneux, shall have the government of John Syngleton, my son.

“That Elizabeth Kyghley shall have the government of George Syngleton, my son, until he be 21 years old.

“That all such articles as are named in my husband's will shall stand in force.

<sup>1</sup> *Coucher Book of Whalley*, Kuerden MS. in the Herald's College.

<sup>2</sup> Exc. Dep. by Commission, Record office, 29 Elizabeth.

"To Thomas Syngleton, my son and heir, one salt-seller parcell-gilt, my great brass-pot, a dozen silver spoons, an iron brandreth, the best in the house. James Massie and Henry Osbaldeston to have the custody of a lease of a certain tithe barn until my son and heir be 21 years of age. To Lawrence Singleton my best heffer. To An Sonkye, my sister-in-law, my best kirtle. To my sister-in-law Jane my . . . cap. To Henry Osbaldeston my best gelding. To my cousin, Elizabeth Charnock, my best 'chamblett kyrtell.' My fattest ox at the house to be slain and dealed out to the poore. To the wife of Robert Whiteside my best silk hat. James Massie and Henry Osbaldeston to be executors."

Thomas Singleton, the eldest son, died 29 August, 1563, seised of the manor of Staining, twenty messuages, a mill, land, and pasture, which had been conveyed to him by his father by deed dated 10 December, 1551. He had issue one daughter, Ellen, who married John Massie of Layton. His next heir was his brother John, then aged 30 years and upwards.<sup>1</sup> In the year succeeding the death of Thomas Singleton, his brothers John, Richard, and George, and his sisters Ellen and Margaret, appeared in the Duchy Court. Their complaint was that their father was, during his life, seised of messuages, lands, a windmill, and other premises in Staining worth £20 a year, and that James Massie of Laton claimed the same for twelve years, whereas by deed dated 26 June, 3 and 4 Phillip and Mary, their father had only granted the premises to the said James Massie and Richard Houghton of Kirkham in trust to pay the debts of him the said William Singleton, the remainder to be held for the use of his wife and children, and afterwards to go to Thomas, his son and heir.<sup>2</sup>

The case seems to have been decided in favour of the defendant, as, in 1565, the vicar of Poulton claimed from him the tithes of Staining (see p. 71).

<sup>1</sup> Duchy Records, vol. xi. p. 43. *Inq. post mort.*

<sup>2</sup> Record office, 6 Elizabeth, xxi., S. 2.

John Singleton died 2 August, 1589, without male issue, but leaving two daughters, Alice and Elizabeth, aged respectively ten and five years. He was seised of the manors of Carleton and Staining, also land in Hardhorn and Poulton, and the fishing in Marton Mere.<sup>1</sup> By his will (which is printed *in extenso* in Chet. Soc., vol. iii., new series) he left a charge upon his estate of £1,500 for his two daughters, and constituted his brother George Singleton of Lea his heir, but, failing issue, the reversion to go to his brother Richard.<sup>2</sup>

Shortly after John Singleton's death, his widow and daughter appear to have been at variance with George Singleton, when one of those broils took place which were so common in the 16th century; the whole circumstances are detailed in a certificate to the queen from "Lord Derby, the Sheriff, and certain Justices, dated 7 June, 1590," which states that Anne, widow of Thomas Hoghton, Esq., gave information, on 21 November, of the riot wherein Mr. Langton, sore wounded, was taken in his bed, and also Thomazine, widow of John Singleton of Staining, and others. It appeared that Thomazine Singleton claimed for herself and her daughters, Alice and Elizabeth, certain cattle removed from Staining to Lea, by George Singleton, brother of John. About 1 a.m. on Friday, 21 Nov., 1589, Thomas Langton, Thomazine Singleton and others, in two companies, one by the gate and the others breaking down the pale and hedge, entered the court to drive away the cattle, having met at 11 that night in Preston Marsh, two miles from Lea, armed with long pikes, guns, long staves, welsh hooks upon long staves, swords and daggers, bows and arrows, and bills, and taken out a watchword, "The crow is white." Mr. Hoghton heard, between 8 and 9 at night, they were assembled to do him displeasure. He armed his servants and others, thirty in all, with staves, one pike, one gun charged with haile shotte, two pistols, one bow and arrow, swords, and

<sup>1</sup> *Inq. post mort.* Duchy Records, vol. xv. p. 47, 33 Elizabeth.

<sup>2</sup> Dugdale makes Richard to be the fourth son; he was, however, the third. Why the estate was left to his younger brother does not appear.

daggers, and at 9 p.m. went into an outhouse in the close, and going in and out expected the other party. On their coming and offering to drive the cattle, a great affray arose within sixty yards of the house of Mr. Hoghton, whose people used the word "black, black." He was slain with Richard Baldwin, one of Thomas Langton's company, but by whom does not appear.<sup>1</sup>

*George Singleton*, the third son of William Singleton, married Mary, the daughter and heiress of John Hoghton of Pendleton, during his brother's life; he lived at Lea, but afterwards removed to Staining, where he died in May, 1598, and was buried at Poulton. The *inq. post mort.* was taken at Wigan, 9 June following. He was found seised of the manors of Carleton and Staining, and of 60 houses, 3 wind mills, 1050 acres of land in Staining, Hambleton, Newton, and elsewhere; the manor of Staining he held in capite and military service, and it was worth xxj<sup>li</sup> xij<sup>s</sup> x<sup>d</sup>. Thomas, his son and heir, was then aged six years and eleven months.<sup>2</sup> *Thomas Singleton* married Cicely, the daughter of Miles Gerard of Ince and Grace his wife, daughter of Gabriel Hesketh of Aughton; he was a justice of the peace for the county in 1600, and was living in 1623, as his sister, Alice Singleton, by her will, dated 5 August in that year, bequeaths to him (describing him as Thomas Singleton of Staining, Esq.) her two oxen and one cow; to her sister-in-law, his wife, she gives the disposal of her clothes; to "pious uses" she leaves x<sup>s</sup>; the rest of her goods to "her natural brother, George Singleton." The witnesses to the will are Edmund Russell and Cicely Singleton.<sup>3</sup>

Thomas Singleton, the eldest son of the last-named Thomas, was a Roman Catholic, as was no doubt his father, and in the Civil Wars he took up arms with the Royalists. In 1642, he was captain of a company which he raised in the Fylde, and afterwards he served with the king's forces in other parts of

<sup>1</sup> Whitaker's *Whalley*, vol. ii. p. 334.

<sup>2</sup> Duchy Records, vol. xii. p. 26, 40 Eliz.

<sup>3</sup> Brit. Mus., add. MS., Nos. 32, 115.

England, and was slain at the first battle of Newbury, on 20 September, 1643. The horse regiments (of the Royalists) engaged in this battle were said to be almost entirely composed of gentlemen, and that many of these were from Lancashire is evident from the list of killed, which included Captain Francis Clifton of Westby, Colonel Dalton of Thurnham, Colonel C. Gerard, Colonel Houghton of Houghton, and others.<sup>1</sup> Thomas Singleton left four sons and three daughters, the eldest son was John Singleton, who was then aged nine years; all the sons died without issue, the last surviving of them was George Singleton, who was living at Staining hall in 1687; in the July of that year he made his will, in which he declared that he "intended to take a journey abroad," and directed that all his debts should be paid out of the receipts of Staining and Carleton manors and other lands, late belonging to his brother Thomas; out of the remainder he directed £500 to be paid to his sister, Mary Mayfield, widow, and her two daughters, Dorothy and Mary Mayfield. He also left the following legacies, viz.: to his kinsman, Richard Ashton, Esq., and his friend Mr. Edmund Hornby, £50 a piece; to his kinsman, Richard Butler, second son of Richard Butler, Esq., £100; to Mr. Kendall, £10; Mr. Swarbrick, £10; Mr. Roger Anderton, £5; to each servant who had been with him three years, 40s., if two years, 30s., if one year, 20s.; the residue to Mary Mayfield.<sup>2</sup>

In this, or the next, year (1688) he died, and the family estates went to his two surviving sisters, Anne Singleton and Mary, the wife of John Mayfield, the youngest daughter, Dorothy, having died in 1687. Anne Singleton, by her will, dated 3 April, 1719, in which she is described as "of Singleton, spinster," left all her estates in Staining, Normosse, Old Carr, Little Carleton, and elsewhere, to Thomas Townley of Royle in trust to sell for the following uses, viz.: to her niece Elizabeth, wife of Robert

<sup>1</sup> *The Battle of Newbury*, by W. Money, F.S.A.

<sup>2</sup> Richmond Wills; there is no date of probate, but the will is endorsed "1688, and declared true copy."



Worswick of Weeton, £5 ; to her kinsman Catherine, wife of Peter Charnley of Lytham, £100 ; to her kinsman Ellen Mayfield, spinster, £100 ; to her kinsman William Blackburne, who then lived with her, £200 ; the residue to John Mayfield of Singleton, her nephew. Mary Mayfield, the wife of John Mayfield the elder, was buried at Poulton in May, 1694 ; she had issue : John, Joseph, buried at Poulton 10 May, 1685, Dorothy, and Mary. John Mayfield the younger dying without issue the estate went to his nephew, William Blackburn of Great Eccleston, who had two sons, James and Gabriel (both of whom were under age in 1755), and a daughter Ann. James Blackburn was the heir-at-law to his father, and before 1784 he was dead, having for some years lived at Prescott, and followed the trade of a watchmaker ; at this time his brother Gabriel was also deceased, as his heir-at-law was his sister Ann, then wife of John Fielding of Singleton, joiner.<sup>1</sup> Whilst John Fielding was lord of the manor of Staining, he built and lived in a house nearly opposite Staining hall. He was twice married ; by his first wife he had an only son, Gabriel Fielding ; by his second wife, *née* Isabel Brown of Staining, he had an only daughter. Gabriel Fielding married an actress and left the neighbourhood.

The manor of Staining, after several changes of owners, in 1810 was purchased by the late Edward Birley, Esq., through whose daughter it passed in marriage to W. H. Hornby, Esq., of Blackburn, the present proprietor.

The hall of Staining, after the Singletons left it, gradually fell away from its former importance, and at last into decay ; on its site is now a modern farm house ; the lines of the old moat may still be traced. The heir of Staining, as late as 1722, claimed the right to appoint the parish clerk of Poulton. There were evidently several junior branches of the Singleton family living in the parish. In 1618, a John Singleton of Bispham, yeoman, died holding land in Oxendall, and leaving sons, John, Thomas, and Laurence.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Title deeds to Higher Moor estate.

<sup>2</sup> A Laurence Singleton of Marshside in Carleton, by will dated 6 May, 1677, left land, &c., to his children, *Hugh*, Edward, John, Richard, and several daughters.

## CHAPTER VII.

### MISCELLANY.

#### SIXTEENTH CENTURY POULTON WILLS.

THE wills for the deanery of Amounderness were, until 1748, proved at Richmond in Yorkshire ; the wills themselves are now at Somerset House, and a list of them has recently been published.<sup>1</sup> Unfortunately very few of earlier date than 1600 have been preserved ; for the whole of the deanery (which comprizes all the Hundred) there are only 193 ; in the British Museum<sup>2</sup> are over 2,000 abstracts of Lancashire wills which are mostly for Amounderness, these range from 1531 to 1652. The following abstracts include *all* the wills at Somerset House, and *all* the abstracts in the British Museum which related to Poulton and are dated before 1600. The museum abstracts are distinguished by an \*.

#### \* WILL OF ROBERT BUTCHER, 1595.

Robert Butcher. 28 May, 1595. To be buried in the parish church of Poulton. His tenement to Elizabeth his wife and to John and William Butcher his brothers, until his eldest be 21, then to him and his heirs, failing issue to William his son, failing issue to John his son, and failing issue to James his son. To his daughter Elizabeth 20s ; to James his brother one tacke of ground ; the rest of his chattels to William his brother and Elizabeth his wife, whom he appoints executors. John his brother, and John son of his brother Richard Butcher, to be supervisors. Inventory £11 9s. 2d.

<sup>1</sup> Record Society, vol. x. One vol. only has been printed, but vol. ii. is ready for the press.

<sup>2</sup> Add. MSS., 32, 115.

## \* WILL OF JOHN CRENE, 1579.

John Crene of Pulton. 13 September, 1579. Body to be buried in Pulton church yard. To John Crene his son all his lands; to Anne Crene his daughter and Margery his wife to have the government of his son till he be 21 years of age; to William Crene his uncle one ewe, Robert Crene his uncle one ewe, and to every one of his children 6*d*. Margery his wife and John his son to be executors.

## \* WILL OF JOHN CROOKOE, 1598.

John Crookoe of Warbrick, yeoman. 16 August, 1598. To Robert Rossall *alias* Crookoe, his bastard son £25; to William his son, all the rest of his goods and chattels after funeral expenses are paid. Margery his wife and William his son executors.

## \* WILL OF WILLIAM DURRAM, 1571.

William Durram, 22 November, 1571. His body to be buried in the parish church yard of Pulton. To his brother Thomas Walsh 20*s*.; to his sister his wife 6*s*. 8*d*.; to Margaret Walsh his daughter 3*s*.; to Agnes Walsh his daughter 3*s*.; to John Walsh his son one calf; to the wife of Richard Singleton his sister one cowe; to William Singleton her son 6*s*. 8*d*.; to George Durram his brother 5*s*.; to John and William Durram 5*s*. a piece; to Alice and Margaret Durram 5*s*. each; to Ellen Thornburne his sister 6*s*. 8*d*.; the rest to John Durram his brother.

## \* WILL OF JOHN DYRHAM, 1589.

John Dyrham of Pulton parish. 6 May, 1589. Body to be buried in Pulton church yard. To Roger Dyrham his son all his houses and lands in the township of Much Pulton, failing heirs then to George Dyrham his son, failing issue then to William his son; to his daughter Margaret £5; to his daughter Alice £3; to Roger his son one chist; to George his son two silver spoons;

to Roger his son all his husband gear; to Walsh's wife, his sister, 10s.; to Catherine his sister 5s. 8*d*. Executors to be Ellen his wife and George his son.

\* WILL OF THOMAS FFISHER, 1583.

Thomas ffisher. 20 November, 1583. To be buried in Poulton church yard. One half of his tenement to Margaret his wife; remainder to John his son and his issue, failing issue to William his son; one third of all his tackes of ground between Richard and Thomas his sons; one other third to William and John his sons; to Margaret his daughter 4*s*. 8*d*.; to William his son 40*s*.; to Richard his son 40*s*.; to John his son 20*s*. 8*d*.; to Richard his brother 6*s*. 8*d*.

WILL OF WILLIAM GARLEKE, 1570.

<sup>1</sup>In Dei nom̄. &c. 10 December, 1570. I Wy<sup>th</sup> Garleke of the Parish of Polton, &c. Bequeath my bodie to be buried in the Church yourd of Polton. My wyfe Jane to have my house to bring up my children, after her decease to my son Richard, with the sanction of the lorde.

I giffe to the church vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>. The rest of my goods one third to my wyffe remainder to my children. . . . and my brother Thomas I appoynt executor. Witnesses, Richard Cropper, vicar, Robert Walshe, and others.

Inventory of goods appoints to 4*s*. 18*s*. 9*d*.

WILL OF WILLIAM HAWLL, 1548.

In Dei nom̄. Amen. In the 30 day of lord god a thousand ccccc and xlviii. the ffirst day of Julij I Wiff<sup>m</sup> Hawll sike in body bot holle in mynd and off god remembrance make my testament in mañ and fforme folowyng. In the ffirst I gyue and bequeath my sowll vnto Allmyghty god and my body to be buried in the church yard of Pulton and I desyre o<sup>r</sup> Ladi and all the celestial

<sup>1</sup> On paper very much worn and dilapidated.

company of heven to pray for me. If. all my goods moveable and immovcable when my deets are payd and my funeral expences done I give and bequeath to Margaret my wyf and my children, the which Margaret my wiff I mak my executress of thys my will so that it be fulfilled and discharged.

WILL OF THOMAS HOGSON, 1566.

In Dei nom. &c. 2 June 1566. I Thomas Hogson of Little Carleton ye<sup>o</sup> &c. body to be buried within the p church of Pulton near the place where my father was buried. I bequeath towards the reparation of the same church iij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup>; to my son John all my smyth gear pleugs [ploughs] waines &c.; Katherine my wife and son John to have custody of my lease and tenement to bring up my children. If my wife marry again then my well beloved William Bamber of Little Carleton and John Hull of Layton, smith to take the custody of the same.

Margaret my daughter . . . I desire my master John Allen to be supervisor.

Witnesses, Sir Richard Greenhalgh and others.

WILL OF GEORGE HULL, 1557.

In Dei nom. &c. I George Hull of the parish of Pulton . . . my bodye to bee buried . . . the . . . side of ye church. Richard my sone to have my house and ploughes and wayne geare — ye rest to be divided amongst my other children. Item to Sir Richard Cropper xij<sup>d</sup>; I give to Sir Henry Norton ix<sup>d</sup>. I appoint Robert Quiteside executor to this my wyll.

Witnesses, Richard Cropper, vicar of Pulton, and Robert Quiteside. Proved 1557.<sup>1</sup>

\* WILL OF HUGH HULL, 1584.

Hugh Hull of Staynor. 3 October, 1584. Body to be buried in Pulton church yard; the good will of his tenement to Arthur Hull, son of Ralph Hull of Thorneton. One lease of ground to

<sup>1</sup> Original *MS.* very much defaced.

Ellen Hull, his brother Edward's daughter ; another lease to Ralph Hull of Thorneton and Hugh his son ; one other lease to Margret, Alice, and Elizabeth, daughters of Edward Hull his brother ; the residue to Edward his brother and Ralph Hull, whom he makes his executors.

WILL OF JOHN LEETHUM, 1563.

In Dei nom̃. &c. I John Leethum of the parish of Pulton sek in body, &c. My sowle to our Lord Jhesu Chryst and all the hole company of heaven to pray for mee, my bodye to be buried in the church yourde. . . . I give to Isabel my daughter . . . Thomas my son . . . .

To Thomas Bamber, Robert Bamber and Isabel Bamber . . . My brother William . . . .<sup>1</sup>

\* WILL OF HENRY LORIMER, 1570.

Henry Lorimer of the parish of Pulton. 14 August, 1570. To be buried in Pulton church yard ; his messuage and tenement to his wife, towards payment of debts, and makes her his executor.

\* WILL OF ISABEL LYTHAM, 1597.

Isabel, late wife of Thomas Lytham of Thorneton. 13 December, 1597. Her body to be buried in Pulton church. To John Lytham her son and his children £6. 13s. 4d.; to Margaret her daughter and her children £5.; to Elizabeth her daughter and her children £5.; to Robert Lytham, son of her son John, £5.; to Thomas Thorneton one parcel of ground in Norcrosse ; the rest to Robert Lytham her son, and John Lytham, whom she makes executors.

\* WILL OF RICHARD PEARSON, 1586.

Richard Pearson of Marton makes his will in 1586. His body to be buried in the parish church yard of Pulton. He gives his tenement and messuage to his wife for her life, with remainder

<sup>1</sup> Written on a scrap of paper, which is very much dilapidated.

to Robert his son ; to Jane Pearson, daughter of his son James, 10s.; to his brother William Pearson 20s.; the rest of his estate, after funeral expenses are paid, to his wife and children.

Inventory amounts to £71. 5s. 2d.

**\* WILL OF ROBERT PEARSON, 1584.**

Robert Pearson of Great Marton. 8 October, 1584. To be buried in Poulton church yard. To Peter Pearson his son £3. 6s. 8d.; to Katherine his daughter, one ewe and one lamb ; to Elizabeth his daughter, wife of William Norris, one ewe and one lamb ; to John, son of Thomas Wilkinson deceased, one ewe and one lamb ; to John and Robert, children of his son John, either of them one ewe lamb ; to Margaret Pearson his daughter-in-law 12d.; to John his son all his husbandry gear ; to Margaret his wife one fether bed and furniture for the same ; the rest to John and Peter his sons.

Margaret his wife and John his son to be executors.

**WILL OF MARGARET QUITESYD, 1562.**

In Dei nom̄. 1562. I Marget Quitesyd [Whiteside] of the parish of Pulton, seke in body, &c. I bequeath my sawll to the lorde Jesu Chryst and my body to be beryed in the church yarde nere to my husband. To Ryc' Urdghte [?] xxvj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> to be paid in 2 yeres ; Comstie Wyffe my brothers daughter [then follow a few items of wearing apparel] the rest to Robert quitsyde my Brother.

Witness to the above, Richard Cropper, vicar.

**WILL OF ROBERT RAMEL, 1560.**

In the name of God, &c. I Robert Ramel of the paroche of pulton seke in body, &c. I bequeath my soull to our Lorde Jesu Christ my body to be bereyed in the churche . . . My goods to be devided into iii partes one to my wyffe, one to my children and one to pay my debts, &c.

Written 1 Oct., 1560. These being witnesses, Ryc. Cropper,

vicar of Pulton, Ryc. Rossekell, Wyff Ramell, Joh. Ramell, and Ryc. Ramell.

\* WILL OF ROBERT RAWE, 1588.

Robert Rawe of Normosse within the parish of Pulton. 30 June, 1588. His bodie to be buried in Pulton church yard. His title to a messuage and tenement called little Hull which he hath of the demise of John Singleton of Staining, Esq., he leaves to Edmund his son and Agnes Hull late daughter of John Hull of Normosse dec<sup>d</sup>; to Jenet his wife and John his son his messuage in Normosse during his term therein; to Richard and William his sons £10; to Margaret Nicson his sister's daughter 8s.; to his brother's children 3s. 4d. a piece; to his two brothers either of them 5s.; to his sister's children 12d.; his husbandry geere to Jenet his wife and John his son; Residue to sons John, Richard, Edmund, and William.

\* WILL OF JOHN RAUTHMELL, 1587.

John Rauthmell of Pulton. 31 May, 1587. Desired to be buried in the parish church yard of Pulton. Gives his tenement to Alice his wife and James Rauthmell his uncle until his son Robert be of the age of 21 years, after that his wife to have one-third and his son the rest; the residue of his estate to the said Robert and Alice Rauthmell his daughter.

Inventory £47. 17s. 2d.

WILL OF JENET SALTHOUSE, 1562.

In Dei nom. &c. 28 November, 1562. I Jenet Salthouse of the paroche of pulton, seke in body, &c. I bequeath my body to be buried in y<sup>e</sup> church yourd. To Richard my sone my ploogere [plough gear] and wayne gere; I give Chappdmont wyffe a quite coote [a white coat]; To Marget my daughter my best kertyl and hose; to Hellyn my daughter a new quite coote and my shapyn cloose; to Harre my son half a quarter of barley;



to Harre and John my sons all the rest of my goods and I appoint them executors.

Witnesses, Rich. Cropper, vicar, Ryc. Harrison, and others.

\* WILL OF JAMES WHITESIDE, 1594.

James Whiteside of Little Marton in the parish of Pulton. 8 October, 1594. To be buried in the church of Pulton. Gives his goods to his son Richard, his daughters Elizabeth Moorcroft, Alice Crookes and Agnes Wheiring. Alice his wife and Richard his son to be his executors.

\* WILL OF RICHARD WHITESIDE, 1594.

Richard Whiteside of Little Marton. 6 July, 1594. To be buried in the church yard of Pulton. Gives to his son Robert Whiteside 6s. 8d., all the rest of his estate to John and Bartholomew, his youngest sons. Ellen his wife to be his executrix.

\* WILL OF PETER WOODHOUSE, 1580.

Peter Woodhouse of Thorneton, yeoman. 27 December, 1580. To be buried in Pulton church yard. Gives to John Hodgson his son-in-law one bed; to Elizabeth his wife and John his son, he gives . . . . . for the education and bringing up of William son of John Ealey, until he accomplish sixteen years; the rest to his wife and son John.

\* WILL OF PETER WOODHOUSE, 1597.

Peter Woodhouse of Thorneton. 13 December, 1597. His body to be buried in Pulton church. Assigns to Elizabeth his wife his tenement for her life, afterwards to Elizabeth his daughter; to John Woodhouse of Marton, his brother 5s.; to Agnes his sister one chist; the rest, after funeral expenses are paid, to his wife and children.

Inventory £64. 16s. 8d.

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## ROAD SIDE CROSSES.

Of these there were formerly several in Poulton; one of the oldest was Nor-cross. It was mentioned in the survey of the 14th century (see p. 16), when Roger de Northcrosse held a messuage and an oxgang of land in Thornton.

There was also a Northcrosse in Carleton, as is shown by a deed dated 29 April, 1477, whereby Philip Bredkirk released to Richard Boteller a house and fifty acres of land in Northcrosse in the Vil de Carleton, which he had from James Pickering.<sup>1</sup>

## PAROCHIAL LIBRARY.

A parochial library was established here in 1720. On the 16 May in that year, Timothy Hall, the vicar, signed the following receipt: "Upon the 15 May last past I received a parochial Library for Poolton from Mr. Henry Newman of Middle Temple, Secretary for the venerable Society for advancing this most noble charity."<sup>2</sup> The library then consisted of about sixty or seventy volumes, which were valued at £23. 9s. 3d.

The library, for the use of the clergy, was one of those founded by Dr. Bray<sup>3</sup> and his associates, who, in 1709, obtained an act of parliament "for the better preservation of Parochial Libraries in that part of Great Britain called England."

In 1757, the library was augmented from the original source, and has ever since been kept in an efficient state; as recently as 1872, a grant of additional books was made by the "associates."

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OLD CUSTOMS.

## FUNERALS.

At funerals it was the custom (which has not quite died out) for each mourner to throw a handful of dust upon the coffin after it was placed in the grave.

<sup>1</sup> Harland's *MSS.*

<sup>2</sup> Bishop's registry, Chester.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Bray was born at Marton in Shropshire, in 1656.

"ALLHALLOW'S E'EN." — "TEANLAY NIGHT."

The last day of October was, until quite a recent period, celebrated in the neighbourhood of Poulton by the lighting of bonfires, and the night was always known as "Teanlay" or "Teanley" night.

Mr. Thornber has given a graphic account of what *may* have taken place on these occasions; but the details require confirmation before they can be accepted even as a tradition. He writes,<sup>1</sup> that on the "Hardhorn oblong cairn, ceremonies were observed for the purpose of securing health to the herds of the farmers in the township — to free the wheat-land from tares, weed, &c. — to bring good luck to the votaries, and to enquire into the secrets of futurity. The ceremony was thus: first, large fires were lighted, two or three families joining at a circular cairn, the ashes of which were carefully collected. Then the white stones, which at first had circled the fire, were thrown into the ashes, and being left all night, were sought for with anxious care at sunrise, when the person who could not distinguish his own particular boulder was considered *fey*, *i.e.*, some misfortune would happen to him during the course of the ensuing year. As a finale, the stones recognised were thrown, as an offering, on the oblong cairn to the god or saint who presided over it and the well, and thus such collections were made in a succession of years as to astonish the curious. The water of the wells also had a sovereign virtue for healing diseases of men and cattle. Fairy well is even yet visited for such a purpose. To succeed in obtaining a cure, however, the patient, escorted by his friends, was made to pass through the cairn, then he was sprinkled or dipped in the well, and lastly, he made an offering of a shell, a pin, a rusty nail, or rag, but principally three white stones burnt in the Teanla fire. It is surprising in what numbers pieces of iron may be picked up. I have found since the meadows were ploughed, nails, an old shaped knife, leathern thongs, &c. The site of the large circular cairn is not now easily to be distinguished, since Mr. Fisher, the proprietor

<sup>1</sup> Hist. Soc. of Lanc. and Chesh., vol. iv. p. 110.

of the field, has carted away upwards of twenty loads of the refuse that composed it, but the soil around is burnt red and black. This farce was carried on in its pristine glory long after the Reformation; for rational Christianity, which had been almost lost previously, progressed but slowly in the district of the Fylde."

#### FLESH DAY.

This was applied to Christmas Day, as people on that day came to Poulton to purchase meat for the coming festival.

#### IGNAGNING.

This singular term was applied in the last century to the dance or performance gone through by the village lads at Easter; now known as "Pace-egging."

#### SHUTTING OF MARLING.

A gala day marked the close of the getting of marl. According to Thornber<sup>1</sup> on this occasion a lord and lady were elected to preside at the feast, who were previously drawn out of the marl pit by a strong team of horses decorated with ribbons, &c.

#### A HAG STONE.

A small stone through which a hole was bored, being attached to the stable key preserved the horses from witches.

#### ST. GREGORY'S DAY.

On this day all onion seed had to be sown, or it was believed the crop would be a failure.

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#### RATE FOR REPAIRS OF SKIP-POOL BRIDGE.

In 1702, the bridge over this stream was found to be in a

<sup>1</sup> *History of Blackpool.*

ruinous condition, the justices of the peace took the matter in hand, and the result was the following order :<sup>1</sup>

“To all Christian people to whom this p'sent Roll shall come to be seene read or heard of, Wee her Maj<sup>ties</sup> Justices of the Peace & quor' ffor the County of Lanc' whose names are subscribed send greeting, ffor asmuch as the common and publick bridges lyinge in the king's highways within the Townes of Thornton & Poulton, commonly called Skippspool bridge, leading betwixt the Markett Townes of Layton & Lancaster is p'sented and ffound to be very ruinous and in greate decaye for want of repaires. Therefore know yee that wee the s<sup>d</sup> Justices for the repairing &c. of s<sup>d</sup> bridge have ordered and allowed, that the sume of Twenty ffive pounds together with the charges of this Roll upon you the Inhabitants of the severall Townes and places hereafter men<sup>õ</sup>ned and doe nominate and appoint the p'sent high constables of the s<sup>d</sup> hundred of Amounderness, collectors thereof, who are to collect and gather the same and make undelayed payment thereof unto Richard Breckell of Thorneton, James Pawson of Poulton, Thomas Walmesley of the same and John Bickerstaff of Thorneton, Gentlemen, supervisors of the s<sup>d</sup> bridge, who are desired to see the same therewith fully repaired as trust is in them reposed.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Preston [amount not stated].				Riby & Wrea .....	0	7	5
Garstang .....	2	15	5	Bryninge & Kellemar .....	0	10	5
Stalmin & Staynall .....	0	10	3	Bill .....	0	6	7
Greenall & Thistleton .....	0	11	2	Singleton parva .....	0	11	1
Alston & Hothersall .....	0	6	6	Westby & Plumpton .....	0	5	10
Barton .....	0	10	6	Warton .....	0	11	1
Elswick .....	0	8	11	Eccleston Magna .....	0	12	6
Eccleston parva & Larbeck .	0	5	10	Ashton .....	0	4	10
Lea .....	0	4	1	Haighton .....	0	6	5
Catterall .....	0	9	0	Woodplumpton .....	1	0	0
Cloughton .....	0	5	1	Inskipp & Sowerby .....	0	4	8
Elston .....	0	7	8	Carleton .....	0	9	8
Goosnargh .....	1	1	7	Newton & Scales .....	0	9	8
Hardhorne & Newton .....	0	13	6	ffreckleton .....	0	14	0

<sup>1</sup> The original is in possession of Mr. John Whitehead of Twyford, in the county of Berks.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Preesall & Hackensall .....	0	11	9	Clifton .....	0	10	7
Ribbleton .....	0	6	1	Weeton & Preese .....	0	9	3
Hambleton .....	0	7	6	Oute Rawcliffe .....	0	11	11
Lytham .....	0	12	6	Newsham .....	0	2	2
Marton .....	0	10	11	Thorneton .....	0	10	11
Whittingham .....	0	12	10	Medlarch & Wesham .....	0	10	1
— hton .....	0	12	3	fishwick .....	0	7	7
Upper Rawcliffe .....	0	0	4	Kirkham .....	0	4	7
Layton & Warbreck .....	0	12	7	Bisphan & Norbreck .....	0	11	0
Poulton .....	0	14	7	Myrscough .....	0	16	7
Grimsarghe & Brockholes ...	0	4	7	Bleasdale .....	0	4	0
Trayles .....	0	8	3				

"In witnesse whereof wee the s<sup>d</sup> Justices in open Sessions of the peace held att Preston 16<sup>th</sup> day Aprill have sett our handes &c. 1702.

RICHARD FLETEWOOD  
EDW. PARKER

JOS WALMISLEY  
EDM HORNBVE."

#### "DILDUMS."

This term was and possibly is still applied to men who have attained the dignity of being great-grandfather.

#### CENTENARIANS.

Isabel Hobson of Thorneton was buried at Poulton 25 April, 1701, being, so says the register, aged 106. Ann Skelmadine of Newton was also buried at Poulton in February, 1708 "aged a hundred and five years ould."

#### SUBMERGED FOREST.

Between Fleetwood and Blackpool frequent traces have been discovered of the remains of a forest ; below high level trunks of trees, lying pointing uniformly eastward with their torn-up roots to the west, are often exposed. Near Rossall, stumps of Scotch firs have been found, and near to them the cones which dropped from their branches. Similar remains were found at Marton (see p. 27).

D D

## AN ASSESSMENT FOR POULTON, ABOUT 1660.

	£	s.	d.	qr.
Rich. fletewood esq. for his miln .....	-	1	10	$\frac{1}{2}$
Thom Rigby esq. ffor his tithe .....	1	10	00	0
Thom Tildesley esq. ffor his tithe.....	-	1	06	0
Nich. Fare.....	-	6	02	$\frac{1}{2}$
Eliz. Hoole .....	-	6	02	$\frac{1}{2}$
Thom Singleton .....	-	*	09	0
Marg <sup>t</sup> . Hodson.....	-	*	10	$\frac{1}{2}$
Jon. Singleton .....	-	11	03	0
Wm. Capper .....	-	3	11	$\frac{1}{2}$
Wm Biggerstaffe .....	-	1	01	$\frac{1}{2}$
Ed. Wild .....	-	3	01	$\frac{1}{2}$
Rob <sup>t</sup> . Hall .....	-	3	01	$\frac{1}{2}$
Agnes Salthouse .....	-	3	01	$\frac{1}{2}$
Jo. Butcher .....	-	11	07	$\frac{1}{2}$
Rob <sup>t</sup> Ecleston .....	-	3	08	0
Rob <sup>t</sup> Gildchrist.....	-	4	06	0
Ja. Bonney .....	-	4	09	$\frac{1}{2}$
Jon Whiteside .....	-	1	11	$\frac{3}{4}$
Rich. Rossall .....	-	1	06	0
Jam. Sanderson .....	-	6	05	$\frac{3}{4}$
Nich. ffare.....	-	1	01	$\frac{1}{2}$
Jam. Pierson.....	-	2	01	$\frac{1}{2}$
Rob <sup>t</sup> . Brodbelt .....	-	5	03	$\frac{1}{2}$
Marg <sup>t</sup> Bamber .....	-	5	07	$\frac{1}{2}$
Rich. Tinkler }	-	8	05	$\frac{1}{2}$
Ed. Tinkler }				
Higginsons estate.....	-	6	09	0
Alex. Smithson .....	-	4	01	0
Jon. Hull .....	-	0	06	$\frac{3}{4}$
Rich. Anyon.....	-	0	01	$\frac{3}{4}$

\* MS. torn here.

	£	s.	d.	qr.
Singletons estate .....	-	6	09	0
W <sup>m</sup> . Lythom.....	-	*0	03	0
Jon. Hobson.....	-	9	00	0
Cardwell's house .....	-	2	03	0
Jo <sup>n</sup> Singleton .....	-	3	02	0
Thom. Anyon jun <sup>r</sup> . .....	-	1	05	0
Robt. Roe.....	-	0	03	$\frac{1}{2}$
Elen Roe	}	2	02	0
Robt. Glave				
Richard ffare				
Rich. Dagger .....	-	0	03	$\frac{1}{2}$
W <sup>m</sup> . Anyons land.....	-	2	05	$\frac{3}{4}$
W <sup>m</sup> . ffisher .....	-	6	05	$\frac{3}{4}$
Ralph Capper .....	-	2	06	$\frac{1}{2}$
John Dagger.....	-	3	08	0
W <sup>m</sup> . Brodbelt .....	-	5	00	$\frac{3}{4}$
Robert Brodbelt .....	-	0	08	$\frac{1}{2}$
Edward Tinkler }	}	3	04	$\frac{1}{2}$
John Butcher				
Old Gorgs land.....	-	1	08	$\frac{1}{2}$
John Bamber .....	-	*0	09	$\frac{3}{4}$
Matthew Hull .....	-	4	06	0
Rob. Smithson.....	-	0	06	$\frac{3}{4}$
John *	-	*	04	$\frac{1}{2}$
John fforshaw .....	-	*	01	$\frac{1}{2}$
Thompsons land .....	-	0	06	$\frac{1}{2}$
John Butcher .....	-	0	10	$\frac{1}{2}$
Thomas Anyon .....	-	0	03	$\frac{1}{2}$
George Hull .....	-	0	03	$\frac{1}{2}$
Will <sup>m</sup> Moore.....	-	0	07	$\frac{1}{2}$
Sandersons yard .....	-	0	03	$\frac{1}{2}$
Richard Wilde .....	-	0	03	$\frac{1}{2}$
Darbyshire estate.....	-	6	09	0

\* MS. torn here.



	£	s.	d.	qr.
Thomas Gaskell .....	-	5	07	$\frac{1}{2}$
Jennet Thompson .....	-	6	09	0
Will <sup>m</sup> Wadmough .....	-	2	03	$\frac{1}{4}$
Richard Anyon .....	-	5	07	$\frac{1}{2}$
Richard Wade .....	-	0	07	$\frac{1}{2}$
Richard Pearson .....	-	1	08	$\frac{1}{4}$
Will <sup>m</sup> Millner .....	-	0	06	$\frac{3}{4}$
Will <sup>m</sup> Lythom .....	-	3	01	$\frac{1}{4}$
George Rossall.....	-	2	03	0
Hennery Browne .....	-	1	08	$\frac{1}{4}$
John Whiteside .....	-	0	09	0
James hull.....	-	3	04	$\frac{1}{2}$
Sarah Salthouse .....	-	2	09	$\frac{3}{4}$
Jane Daus .....	-	1	08	$\frac{1}{4}$
Jonathan Bowman .....	-	1	08	$\frac{1}{4}$
Will <sup>m</sup> Bamber .....	-	6	09	0
Mathew hull .....	-	7	10	$\frac{1}{2}$
Hennery fletcher.....	-	1	01	$\frac{1}{2}$
John Bamber .....	-	1	05	0
Will <sup>m</sup> Walker .....	-	1	01	$\frac{1}{2}$
Jennet Biggens.....	-	2	03	0
Will <sup>m</sup> ffisher .....	-	5	00	$\frac{3}{4}$
Edm. Anyon.....	-	8	08	$\frac{3}{4}$
Thomas Whitside.....	-	0	09	0
Jenet Hull.....	-	1	05	0
Ralph hayes .....	-	0	06	$\frac{3}{4}$
Rob <sup>t</sup> Brodbelt } .....	-	2	09	$\frac{3}{4}$
James Sanderson }				
Alex <sup>r</sup> . Smithson .....	-	1	01	$\frac{1}{2}$
John Butcher .....	-	1	09	0
John ffarshaw .....	-	2	06	$\frac{1}{2}$
Mathew Hull for Tunsted .....	-	0	06	$\frac{1}{2}$
Thomas Anyon .....	-	0	06	$\frac{1}{2}$

\* *MS.* torn here.

## APPENDIX.

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### I.

#### CHURCH OF PULTON.

Cartæ Antiquæ. Augmentation Office. E 8.

To all sons of holy mother church to whom the present letters shall come. Henry de Walton Archdeacon of Richmond greeting in the saviour of all men. Know all ye, that whereas we personally visiting our Archdeaconry of Richmond aforesaid, as required by our office in the year of our Lord 1351, have caused judicially to be summoned the religious men the Prior and Monks of the house of St. Mary Lancaster, holding to their own uses against the common right, the pairsh church of the same with the chapels of Caton, Gressyngham, Overton, and Stalmyn, dependant on the church of Lancaster aforesaid, and the parish church of Pulton in Amundernes, with the chapel of the same of Biscopham and a yearly pension of ten marks from the church of Preston in Amundernes, and another yearly pension of half a mark from the church of Hesham, of which church the said Religious men are patrons, with some partial tithes portions pensions and other emoluments as follow more fully described in foreign parishes within our said Archdeaconry, to exhibit and show for themselves whatever they canonically have upon the appropriation of the churches and chapels and receiving of the pensions and tithes aforesaid on and at a certain day and place before us. The aforesaid Religious men by the proctor of the same lawfully appointed on and at the said day and place before us in form of our vocation lawfully appearing in form of right have alledged and proposed that the Religious men aforesaid, were and are canonically possessed of the parish churches of Lancaster and of Pulton with the chapels of the same aforesaid and the yearly pensions of ten

marks from the church of Preston and half a mark from the church of Hesham aforesaid and all manner of tithes of the forests or groves of Myrescove, Foulwode, Quernmore and the Park of Hyde, and Cadley, and tithes of hunting and all other profits arising out of the forests aforesaid, and tithes of corn of Riggeby and Syngilton in the parish of Kirkham and all manner of tithes arising from the demesne lands of the Duke of Lancaster, within the County or Duchy of Lancaster in the Archdeaconry aforesaid with all their rights and appurtenances have received had possessed and converted to their own uses the churches aforesaid, with their appurtenances and the pensions aforesaid and partial tithes as aforesaid obtained from the time of forty years and more and further from time immemorial, except the portion of the vicarage in the aforesaid church of Pulton, antiently ordained, and that it was and is specially granted and suffered by the Archdeacons of Richmond for the time being to the said Religious men, canonically obtaining the church of Lancaster aforesaid, appropriated that they ought not to be compelled to have a perpetual vicar in the same church or in anywise to be restrained, which said grant and indulgence the same Religious men have used peaceably, during all the time aforesaid, in proof whereof they have exhibited many instruments and muniments and apostolic letters, and by witnesses worthy of credit before us in form of right sworn upon the premises diligently examined lawfully proved the possession of all and singular the premises from the time aforesaid. Whereupon we the Archdeacon aforesaid, the said instruments and letters having been seen and diligently examined and discussed and the attestations of the aforesaid witnesses fully understood and the merits of such business sufficiently and fully searched into, finding that the aforesaid Religious men have canonically obtained the churches aforesaid with their appurtenances, also the yearly pensions and all and singular the tithes above expressed, and upon the obtaining appropriation possession and detention of the said churches and chapels and receiving of the said tithes and pensions they were and are suffi-

ciently strengthened, having called those to be called in this behalf, and sufficient knowledge of the cause by the knowledge aforesaid and the order of right which in this case was required, having been observed in all things, we pronounce and declare by synod and diffinitively in these writings that the aforesaid Religious men ought to have to their own uses, the aforesaid churches with the said chapels of the same, also the yearly pensions aforesaid of ten marks from the aforesaid church of Preston and half a mark from the church of Hesham and all and singular the tithes aforesaid, and may convert the fruits of the said churches and chapels to their own uses, except the portion of the vicar of Pulton, and that it may be lawful to the same to serve and cause to be served the church of Lancaster aforesaid, hereafter by fit and secular Chaplains. And we judicially absolve the aforesaid Religious men as sufficiently strengthened in the premises and every of the premises and the canons possessors of the same from further trouble or disturbance of our office, and we dismiss them absolved by our decree in peace, saving always the rights liberties customs and honour of us and of our Archdeaconry aforesaid to us and our successors in all things. In witness and faith of all whereof we have caused our present letters to be made common by the setting of our seal. Given at Lancaster the third day of the month of October in the year of our lord 1351.

(On the back.) For the Pension of Preston vj<sup>li</sup> xiijs iiijd.

A Sentence diffinitive given be y<sup>e</sup> Archedeken of Richemond be whiche it appereth that y<sup>e</sup> Chirchez of Lancast<sup>r</sup> & Pulton w<sup>t</sup> all y<sup>e</sup> Chapele longyng to them ben holden in ppr vse. Da<sup>t</sup> iij<sup>cio</sup> die Octobr A<sup>o</sup> dñi M<sup>l</sup>ccclj<sup>mo</sup>.

## II.

ORDER TO REPAIR POULTON CHANCEL, A.D. 1345.

Augmentation Office. Miscellaneous Charters. Vol. xviii.

[No. 327.] Simon de Bekyngh<sup>m</sup> Re<sup>v</sup>endi viri dñi Archid<sup>i</sup> Riche<sup>m</sup> i<sup>po</sup> in remotis, agente Vica<sup>r</sup> ge<sup>n</sup>at dñio Wilt<sup>mo</sup> Rectori

ecclie ſci Michis ſup Wire ꝛ Thurſtano Rectori ecclie de Preſtoñ ac Decano Amūderñ ſalēm in oīn ſalvatoř. Ad compellēd canōice dñm Wiſſm Vicař ecclie de Pultoñ, aut Reliğ viros Priorē ꝛ Monach Lancastř ipſam eccliam in usus ppios optinentes qđ Cancell ecclie pcedē ꝛ Capell de Bysceplm eidm annexe, debite reficiant ꝛ reparent infra tempus legitimū p vos illi aut illis ad quē vel ad quos hñ<sup>q</sup> refeccio ꝛ repacio ptinent de jure ordinacione canonica qſuetudine vel ſtatuto conſidař debiř psonare ꝛ locore circūſtanč limitand, necnō ad cognoscend ſtatueñd pnūciand diffiniend ꝛ exequend ac ulřius facieñd in pmiſs ꝛ ea cōtingentibꝫ juſtie complementū. Voř de quore fidelitate ꝛ industria circumſpecta plenā in dño fiduciā reportam<sup>q</sup> q junctim ꝛ diuiſim cōmittim<sup>q</sup> vices nřas cū cujuſlibet cohercōis canōice potestate. Dař Ebořę vicesimo ꝙcio die menř Auguſti Anno dñi Miſſmo CCC xl. quinto.

### III.

#### STAINING GRANGE.

Augmentation. Miscellaneous Books. No. 45.

[No. 197.] Vniūſis Xpi fidelibꝫ ad quos pſens ſcriptū pueñit. Frař. Garnerus Kař. Diuina miſeraçõe Abbs Loci bñdci de Stanlawhe. Et ei'dem loci humiř Conuēt<sup>q</sup> Sařt. Nouit vniūſitas nřa Dñm Galfridum Priorē Lanč ad petiçõe nřam ex mera benignitate ſua tediis ꝛ laboribꝫ nřis humiř pendo nob qñtu ad ſe ptinet conſeſſiſſe vt oibꝫ ſecularibꝫ excluſis cantariam nřam, heam<sup>q</sup> in oratorio nřo infra Grangiam nřam de Stainig, que eſt ſita infra Limiteſ pochie de Pultō cū illuc ueñim<sup>q</sup>. Et ibidem nob ꝛ noſtris Conūſis diuina picipiam<sup>q</sup>. Saluis in omnibꝫ decimis oblaçōibꝫ ꝛ obuencōibꝫ. Matrici Ecclie de Pultō Jure comuni debitis. Nos vero Matricē Eçc<sup>m</sup> de Pultō de nob ꝛ noſtris pro poſſe ſeruabim<sup>q</sup> illeſam. Et ſi aliqua leſio p nos ūl p nřos dce Ecclie de Pultō p tractū tpis quod abſit eueñit, extuc nos in iam dca Grangia de Staynig a diuinis omnino ceſſabim<sup>q</sup>. Donec de dampnis ꝛ leſionibꝫ Priori Lanč qui pro tpr adminiſtraçõe dci Priorat<sup>q</sup> habuerit ꝛ pſonis dce Ecclie de Pultō que p tpr fuerit, ad

plenū satisfecerim<sup>9</sup>. In hui<sup>9</sup> rei testimoniū p̄senti scripto sigillū nostrū apposui<sup>9</sup>.

[N.D. Probably early part Henry III. (1216-72.)]

## IV.

Augmentation. Miscellaneous Books. No. 35.

[No. 130.] Hec Indentura confecta in<sup>9</sup> religiosum virū F̄rm Raðm Couratt Priorē eccl'ie b'e Marie Lancas̄r ex vna pte et Dñm Aðm Banast̄ militē, ex al'ia testat̄, Qd cū quedam dissensiones ⁊ cause discordie nup in<sup>9</sup> eosd̄m sborte fuissent tā sup transita ad hōines pedites ⁊ equites carectas ⁊ plaust<sup>a</sup> ipsius prioris hōinū ⁊ tenētū suorē, Hñdo p' diūsas vias vlt<sup>a</sup> terras p̄dci Dñi Ade de Thorneton Staynol̄ ⁊ Singleton q'm ⁊ sup pturbaçõe collecçōis deciarē ejusd̄m prioris inf<sup>a</sup> ðnium ejusd̄m Ade cariaðarē dissensiones ⁊ discordie sup<sup>a</sup> ðce in<sup>9</sup>uenientib; amicis cōib; amicabili<sup>9</sup> conquieuerūt in hunc modū videt̄ qd p̄dus Dñs Adam concessit p se ⁊ hēdib; suis qd p̄dus prior ⁊ successores, sui hōines ⁊ tenētes eorēd̄m impetuū hēant duas vias sufficiētes vlt<sup>a</sup> terras ejusd̄m ðni Ade, ad hōines pedites ⁊ equites carectas ⁊ plaust<sup>a</sup> ad aūia sua fuganda et refuganda ⁊ cariaðia sua faciēda silicet vnā viam a villis de Pulton ⁊ Thorneton vltra Skippol ⁊ exinde vsq; paruam Singleton p viam que ducit vsq; vadū de Aldewath, in aqua de Wire et aliā viam a p̄dcis villis de Pulton ⁊ Thorneton vsq; vadū de Bulkē in p̄dca aqua de Wire. Et p̄terea Idm ðns Adam concessit p se ⁊ hēdib; suis qd p̄dus Prior et successores sui ⁊ omēs alii qui p ip̄m Priorē seu successores suos ad decias suas in pochia sua de Pulton infra ðnium ip̄ius ðni Ade colligēdas ⁊ cariað sūint deputati, decias illas libe pacifice ⁊ sine impedimento, ip̄ius ðni Ade ⁊ hēdū suorē colligē valeant ⁊ cariare ⁊ cōmodū suū inde facere put eis ⁊ eccl'ie sue melius videbit̄ expedire. Ita qd si cōtingat qd aliqd dampnū p ðcm Priorē vl hōines seu tenētes suos p̄dco ðno Ade, vl hēdib; suis in bladis vl in p'tis corē vl alibi iniuriose illatum sūit tūc dāpnū it̄d sēd̄m sui quantitate rōnabi<sup>9</sup> emendet̄. Et p̄dus Prior remisit ⁊ quietū clamauit p̄dco ðno

Ade ꝛ ꝓiētibꝫ suis, quibuscūqꝫ oīmodā accōnem tꝛnsgressionis qꝫm idm Prior ꝑ ꝑꝛatos Ad ꝛ ꝓiētes suos ip̄i Priori illatā fuisse asseruit Prouiso in qꝫd acciones debitorē si que ip̄i Priori competāt vsus ꝑꝛcm Adm ꝛl aliquē ꝓiētū suorē ꝑꝛcorē eidm Pori totalitꝛ reseruentꝛ ꝑꝛca remissione nō obstante. In cuꝫꝛ rei testimoniū, ꝑtibꝫ hujꝛ Indenture sigilla ꝑꝛcorē Prioris ꝛ Ade alūnatim sunt appensa. Hiis testibꝫ Joꝫne de Denā, Robto de Schirbourne, Robto de Dalton, militibꝫ, Joꝫne de Croft, Wiꝛmo le Gentilꝛ, Joꝫne de Lancastꝛ, Henrico de Carletoꝫ ꝛ Aliis. Datꝫ apud Lancastꝛ die Jouis ꝑꝛ post ꝫm Eꝑꝫie Anno dñi Milꝛmo CCC<sup>mo</sup> Tricesimo ꝛ Anno regni Regis Edwardi ꝛcii a conquestu quarto. [1330.]

## GENERAL INDEX.

*The (\*) refers to Pedigrees facing the page named.*

- A**LDWETH," or "Aldewath," 2.  
 All Hallows' e'en, 199-200.  
 Allen family, 125-57, 156.\*  
 Assessment for Poulton in 1660, 202.  
 Assize of bread and ale, 6.
- B**AINES' charities, 116, 119.  
 Bamber family of Carleton, 176, 177.  
 — the Moor, 179-82.  
 — Poulton, 177-79.  
 "Bergerode," 4.  
 Bispham chapel, 39, 43.  
 Blackpool, 43.  
 Boteller family, 21-3.  
 Breck R. C. chapel, 64.  
 Broughton-in-Furness, minister of, 75.
- C**ARLETON, township of, 17-19.  
 — cuckstool, 19.  
 — family, 17-18, 170-6.  
 — hall, 170-6.  
 — manorial court, 19.  
 — right of way in, 17.  
 — school, 115, 116.  
 — tenants of Cockersand, 11.  
 Celts, 1.  
 Centenarians, 201.  
 Civil wars in Poulton, 30, 31.  
 Cockerham, vicar of, 77.  
 Cockersand abbey, bursar's roll of, in 1451  
 and 1501, 11, 12, 37.  
 Cuckstool in Poulton, 19.  
 Chantry in Poulton church, 40, 41.  
 Charities, public, 115-22.  
 — Baines', 119.  
 — Carleton school, 115-16.  
 — Free school, 116-18.  
 — Hodgson's, 121.  
 — Jolly's, 122.  
 — Marton school, 118-19.  
 — Nickson's, 120.  
 — Whitehead's, 120.  
 — Whiteside's (Edward), 120.  
 — — (William), 121.  
 — Whittam's, 122.
- Chester, siege of, 73.  
 Church of Poulton, 37-50.  
 — bells, 42, 48.  
 — chantry in, 40-41.  
 — clock, 47.  
 — dedication, 43.  
 — endowments, 38.  
 — Fleetwood vault in, 45.  
 — font, 45.  
 — gallery in, 46.  
 — hatchments, 58, 59.  
 — inventory of goods, 42.  
 — monuments in, 50-60.  
 — oblations, 28.  
 — organ, 47.  
 — plate, 49.  
 — pews, list of, 48, 49.  
 — pulpit, 45.  
 — rector of, 28.  
 — registers, 92, 114.  
 — repairs of, in 1345, 38.  
 — — in 1566, 42.  
 — — in 1584, 41.  
 — — in 1868, 49.  
 — — in 1883, 49.  
 — — chancel in 1351, 38.  
 — Rigby pew, 45.  
 — survey of, in 1650, 42.  
 — tower, 44.  
 — tithes in 1492, 40, 42.  
 — — in 1535, 41.  
 — — 28, 43.  
 — vicars of, 65-87.  
 — vicarage, 38, 43, 49.  
 Churchwardens' accounts, 91.  
 — pew, 46.  
 — 88-93.  
 Churchyard of Poulton, 47.  
 Crosses, way side, 197.
- D**ANISH names, 4.  
 "Dildums," 201.  
 Domesday survey, 5.  
 "Drenches," 16.  
 "Drengage," 16.



"ELREKAR" in Carleton, 18.

**F** LAX trade in Poulton, 33.  
 Freckleton church pulpit, 46.  
 Fleetwood church, 63.  
 — curates and vicars, 63, 64.  
 — family, 157-67.  
 — vault, 45.  
 — town, 35.  
 "Flesh day, 199.  
 Funeral custom, 197.

"HAG" stone, 199.  
 — Halls, old, 123-88.  
 — Burn hall, 169-70.  
 — Carleton hall, 170-76.  
 — Little Poulton hall, 167-68.  
 — Rossall grange, 123-67.  
 — Staining hall, 182-88.  
 — The Moor, 179.  
 — Thornton hall, 168-9.  
 — Tollerstaff hall, 168.  
 "Hallstude" in Marton, 20.  
 Hardhorn with Newton, 27-30.  
 — Free school, 116-17.  
 Harrison family, 77-9.  
 Hesketh family of Little Poulton, 167-8.  
 Hodgson's charity, 121.  
 "Hole-in-the-wall" beerhouse, 19.  
 Holmes, the, 12, 17.  
 Hull family of Poulton, 85, 86.

**I** NDEPENDENT chapel, 64.  
 "Ignagning," 199.

**K** ETELISWORTH, 20.  
 Ketelesholmwuthura, 20.  
 Kirkham grammar school, 80.  
 — vicar of, 77.

**L** ANCASTER, priory of, and right of way, 5-6.  
 Laton-rakes, 43.  
 Library, parochial (Dr. Bray's), 197.  
 Loxham family of Kirkham, 81-2.  
 Lund, curate of, 77.

**M** ARTON township, 12, 19-27.  
 — church, 60-2.  
 — curates of, and vicars, 61.  
 — in 1650, 43.  
 — Mere, 24-6.  
 — Moss, 34.  
 Marton school, 61, 118.

Mattinsmure marsh, 18, 27.  
 Monuments in church and churchyard, 50-60.

**N** ONARUM inquisitione, 9.  
 Nickson's chantry, 20.

**O** LD customs, 197-9.  
 — halls, *see* Halls, 123, 188.  
 Oliver Cromwell's daughter, 158.

**P** ARISH registers, 92-114.  
 Petty session in Poulton, 33.  
*Pedigrees* —

Allen of Rossall, 125-57, 156.\*  
 Bamber of Carleton, 176-7.  
 — of Poulton, 177-9.  
 — of the Moor, 179-82.  
 Carleton of Carleton, 170-6.  
 Fleetwood of Rossall, 157-67.  
 Harrison of Poulton, 77-9.  
 Hesketh of Little Poulton, 167-8.  
 Hull of Poulton, 85-6.  
 Loxham of Kirkham, 81-2.  
 Singleton of Staining, 182-8, 188.\*  
 Thornton of Thornton, 13-17.  
 White of Poulton, 74.  
 Population of Poulton, 36.  
 Poulton, area of parish, 36.  
 — assessment in 1660, 197.  
 — boundaries, 1.  
 — charities, 115-22.  
 — church, *see* church of Poulton.  
 — crosses, 197.  
 — family, 5-8.  
 — flax trade in, 33.  
 — free schools, 116-18.  
 — in 11th and 16th centuries, 2-12.  
 — in 1816, 35.  
 — in the Civil Wars, 30, 31.  
 — in the pre-Roman time, 1.  
 — in the time of the Romans, 2.  
 — library, parochial, Dr. Bray's, 197.  
 — Market, 34, 35.  
 — mortality, great, in 1662, 105.  
 — Mote Hall, 34.  
 — Port, 33.  
 — right of way to Thornton in 1330, 6, 200.  
 — Rigby's, Alexander, house, 34.  
 — stocks, 34.  
 — whipping post, 34.  
 — wills in 16th century, 189-96.  
 Protestation, the, in 1641, 31-3.

**R**IBBLE, right of fishing in, 67.

Rigby family, 76.

Roman coins found in Poulton, 3.

— roads in Poulton, 2.

Rossall Hall, 123-67.

— seizure of, 136-57.

— wreck of Spanish ship near, 31.

**S**AINTE Gregory's day, 199.

— Martin of Sees, abbot of, 29.

Saxon names, 4.

Schools, *see Charities*.

Shard, the, 2.

Shutting of the Marling, 199.

Singleton family, 182-8, 188.\*

— Grange, 72.

— Thorpe, 3.

Skipool, 6, 34.

— bridge, rate for repairs of, 199, 200.

Spanish ship wrecked off Rossall, 31.

Staining, 17, 27-30.

— Grange, 27-30.

— — burning of, 28-30.

— Hall, 182-8.

— tithes, 28-9.

Stalmine, curate of, 79.

Stana or Stainall, 12-15.

Stokynbride, Le, 18.

Stydd chapel, pulpit in, 46.

Submerged forests, 27, 201.

Subsidy roll, 1332, 8-13, 18, 23.

— 1545-6, 12.

— 1500-1, 12.

Sworn men of Poulton, 89.

Syon monastery, 39, 41, 42-69.

— — survey of, 40.

**T**HORNTON township, 12-17.

— church, 62.

— curates and vicars of, 63.

— family, 13-17.

— Hall, 168, 169.

— school, 118, 119.

“Teanlay” night, 198.

Tithes of Poulton in 1492, 40-42, 43.

Todderstaff Hall, 168.

Trummall [or Trunnah], 13.

Tyldesley's diary, 79, 80.

**V**ICARS of Poulton, 65-87.

**W**ESLEYAN Chapel, 64.

White family of Poulton, 74.

Whitehead's charity, 120.

Whiteside's (Edward) charity, 120.

— (William) charity, 121.

Whittam's charity, 122.

Wills of 16th century, 189-96.



## INDEX OF NAMES.

*The (\*) refers to Pedigrees facing the page named.*

- A** BELL, Rog., 8.  
 — Adameson, George, 97.  
 — Thomas, 97.  
 Adlington, Robert, 16.  
 Alan, John, 41.  
 Albin, Rev. Christopher, 48, 60.  
 — Richard, 106.  
 — Robert, 106.  
 Aldyngton, Robert, 171, 172.  
 Alen, George, 70, 126, 129, 130.  
 — Hugh, 127.  
 — Isabel, 126.  
 — John, 126, 127, 129, 130, 131.  
 — John, *uxor*, 127.  
 — M'gret, 127.  
 — Richard, 126.  
 — Thomas, 126.  
 — William, 126, 127.  
 Alenn, Elizabeth, 126.  
 — John, 126.  
 Alexander, Sir, 37.  
 Allann Daniell, 106.  
 — Patrick, 106.  
 Allanus, Gabriel, 134.  
 Allen, Agnes, 105.  
 — Anne, 128, 129, 132, 135.  
 — of Breckenhall pedigree of, 157.\*  
 — Catherine, 129, 131, 139.  
 — Cardinal William, 128, 131, 132, 133, 134, 136, 137, 139.  
 — Dr., 146, 156.  
 — Elizabeth, 97, 125, 128, 129, 130, 131, 135, 136.  
 — Ellen, 129, 131.  
 — family of, 125.  
 — Gabriel, 129.  
 — George, 97, 105, 126, 128.  
 — Helen, 139.  
 — Hugh, 128.  
 — Jane, 128.  
 — John, 125, 126, 128, 167, 174, 192.  
 — Magister, 71.  
 — Margaret, 131.  
 — Mary, 129, 130, 131, 139.  
 Allen, Mrs., 136, 138, 140, 141, 143, 144, 145, 146, 150, 151, 152, 153, 156.  
 — Ralph, 125.  
 — Randulphus, 125.  
 — Richard, 152.  
 — Sampson, 125.  
 — Thomas, 125, 128, 132, 135, 136.  
 — William, 126, 131, 141.  
 — William, nephew of, 126.  
 Alman, Thomas, 101.  
 Almande, Laurence, 103.  
 — Richard, 96.  
 — Thomas, 96, 103.  
 Almonde, Alice, 95.  
 — Margery, 175.  
 — Thomas, 95, 175.  
 Alotessone, Will'ms, 14.  
 Alston, John, 78.  
 Ambrose, William, 9.  
 Anderton, Anne, 167.  
 — Dorothy, 188.\*  
 — Hugh, 167.  
 — James, 188.\*  
 — Roger, 187, 188.\*  
 — Thomasine, 188.\*  
 Anian, William, 141.  
 Anion, John, 101.  
 — Mr., 144, 145, 146.  
 — Rawlin, 90.  
 Anyen, Jane, 106.  
 — Rutland, 106.  
 Anyon, Agnes, 127.  
 — Edm., 204.  
 — John, 12, 107, 127.  
 — Richard, 127, 128, 202, 204.  
 — Richard, *uxor*, 127.  
 — Rowland, 30.  
 — Thomas, 203, 204.  
 — William, 130, 177, 203.  
 Argall, Jane, 160.  
 — Richard, 160.  
 Aschella, William, son of the daughter of, 66.  
 Ashton, Hugo de, 11.

- Ashton, John, 89.  
 — Richard, 187.  
 Aspinall, Grace, 84.  
 Award, Jane, 102.  
 — Robert, 90.  
 Awarde, John, 101.  
 Awardes, Robert, 90.  
 Awards, Elinor, 108.  
 — Jane, 101.  
 Aw[ar]ds, Richard, 31.  
 — Thomas, 32.  
  
**BACHELER**, Hugh, 22.  
 Bagot, John, 32.  
 Bailey, J. T., 48.  
 Bailye, Bridgett, 102.  
 Bain, John, 118.  
 Baines, Agnes, 116.  
 — Dorothy, 117.  
 — Francis, 116.  
 — James, 116, 117, 118, 119.  
 — Jennet, 116.  
 — John, 116.  
 Baldwin, Richard, 185.  
 Balie, John, 95.  
 — Margaret, 95.  
 — Richard, 95.  
 — William, 95.  
 Bamber, Agnes, 102.  
 — Alice, 103, 177, 178, 179.  
 — Ann, 179.  
 — Captain, 30.  
 — family, of Carleton, 176.  
 — Edmond, 71.  
 — Edmund, 103, 177.  
 — Edmund, *uxor*, 177.  
 — Edward, 174, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182.  
 — Elizabeth, 180.  
 — Ellen, 179.  
 — family of the Moor, 179, 180.  
 — family of Pulton, 177.  
 — Isabel, 177, 193.  
 — James, 179, 180, 181.  
 — Jenet, 177, 179.  
 — Jennett, 108.  
 — John, 32, 33, 89, 118, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 203, 204.  
 — Margaret, 77, 115, 177, 202.  
 — Margery, 177, 180.  
 — Marjorie, 179.  
 — Mary, 179.  
 — Richard, 31, 104, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 188.\*  
 — Robert, 108, 177, 180, 193.  
  
 Bamber, Thomas, 26, 91, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 193.  
 — William, 115, 118, 177, 178, 179, 180, 188,\* 192, 204, *see Bomber*.  
 Bamburgh, William, 11.  
 Banastre, Adam, 15.  
 — Sir Adam, 6.  
 — Thomas, 16.  
 Banester, Richard, 24.  
 — William, 15.  
 Banestre, Adam, 209.  
 Baptist, Mr., 154, 155.  
 Barrow, Arthur, 32.  
 Barton, Miles, 48.  
 — Prudence, 164.  
 — Robert, 32.  
 — Thomas, 42, 49.  
 Baskell, Anne, 161.  
 — Ralph, 161.  
 Baylie, Ellen, 96.  
 — John, 95, 96.  
 — Richard, 95.  
 Bayliffe, Francis, 113.  
 — Jane, 113.  
 Beaumont, Mr., 15.  
 Beechey, Rev. St. Vincent, 63.  
 Bekingham, Simon de, 38.  
 Bekingh'm, Simon de, 207.  
 Belie, Elizabeth, 98.  
 — Margaret, 101.  
 — Richard, 98.  
 Bember, Robert, 12.  
 Bennet, George, 118.  
 Bennisson, Rev. J., 169.  
 Beres, . . . , 160.  
 — Mary, 160.  
 Beryngton, Robert, 172.  
 Bickerstaff, George, 48.  
 — John, 200.  
 — William, 49.  
 Bickerstaffe, James, 96, 119.  
 — Margaret, 116.  
 — Robert, 103.  
 — Thomas, 96, 103.  
 — William, 90.  
 Biggens, Jennet, 204.  
 Biggerstaffe, William, 202.  
 Bircher, Richard, 32.  
 Bird, Bishop, 41.  
 — Henry, 118.  
 — John, 47.  
 — Samuel, 117.  
 Birkenhead, Henry, 188.\*  
 Birkett, Mary, 51.  
 — Rev. William, 51.

- Birley, Edward, 188.  
     — John, 46, 47, 48, 49.  
 Bisbrown, James, 44.  
     — Margaret, 44.  
 Bisbrowne, Lurence, 98, 101.  
     — Richard, 33, 114.  
     — Thomas, 90, 98.  
 Biscopphem, Richard de, 124.  
 Blackburn, John, 11.  
 Blackburne, Ann, 188.  
     — Gabriel, 188.  
     — James, 188.  
     — John, 68.  
     — William, 188.  
 Blundeville, Randolph de, 123.  
 Blundus, Baldewinus, 13.  
 Bocker, Thomas, 71.  
 Bolinbroke, Henry of, 22.  
 Bomber, William, 90, 176, *see Bamber*.  
 Bonde, Sir Edward, 127.  
 Bonney, Ja., 202.  
 Bootle, Robert Wilbraham, 82.  
 Boteler, Elizabeth le, 22.  
     — Isabella le, 21.  
     — Joanna le, 22.  
     — Norman le, 21.  
     — Richard, 10, 11.  
     — Sir Thomas, 22.  
     — Sir William le, 22.  
     — William le, 169.  
 Boteller, Edmund le, 23.  
     — Edward le, 24.  
     — Henry le, 21.  
     — James le, 23, 24.  
     — John le, 22.  
     — Nicholas, 22.  
     — Richard, 197.  
     — Sir John, 22.  
     — Sir William, 22.  
     — Theobald Walter le, 21, 24.  
     — William le, 17, 21, 22, 29.  
 Botiler, John, 9, 10, 16.  
     — Nicholas, 9, 10, 22.  
     — Theobald le, 21.  
 Bottiller, John, 68.  
     — Richard le, 18, 21, 22.  
     — Richard, 170, 172.  
     — Thomas, 10.  
     — William, 22, 68.  
 Botyller, Richard, 69.  
     — Sir John, 68.  
 Bowman, Jonathan, 204.  
 Bowness, Rev. Robert, 51.  
 Bowyk, Robert de, 9.  
 Boydell, John, 89.  
 Boydell, Mathew, 108.  
 Brabazon, Sir Edward, 72.  
 Bradshaw, James, 172.  
 Brair, Robert, 97.  
     — Susanna, 97.  
 Braithwatt, William, 101.  
 Bramley, George, 139.  
 Bray, Dr., 197.  
     — John, 32.  
     — Margret, 114.  
 Braye, James, 102.  
 Breckell, Ales, 110.  
     — Isabell, 94.  
     — John, 91, 110.  
     — Richard, 200.  
     — Robert, 98.  
     — William, 94.  
 Bredkirk, John de, 14.  
     — Margaret de, 14.  
     — Philip, 197.  
 Bredkyrke, John, 171.  
 Brerely, Rev. John, 74.  
 Bretherton, Rev. William, 65.  
     — Sir William, 69.  
     — vicar, 41.  
 Brickell, Thomas, 91.  
 Bridgeman, Bishop, 73.  
 Bridgewater, Dr., 136.  
 Brockholes, John, 69.  
     — Mr., 92.  
     — Richard de, 6.  
     — W. F., 64.  
 Brodbelt, Robert, 202, 203, 204.  
     — William, 203.  
 Brogreaves, Thomas, 135.  
 Brown, George, 42.  
     — Isabel, 188.  
     — R., 64.  
     — Richard, 69.  
     — Rev. Richard, 10, 65, 68.  
     — Thomas, 68.  
     — William, 92.  
 Browne, Alderman, 3.  
     — Dr., 3.  
     — Hennery, 204.  
     — John, 32, 73, 94, 96.  
     — Richard, 10, 11, 109.  
     — Thomas, 104.  
     — William, 96.  
 Brun, Batty de, 13, 169.  
 Bryer, Rev. Thomas, 62.  
 Buck, Margaret, 57.  
     — Mrs., 92.  
     — Richard, 57.  
     — Robert, 45.

- Bullar, James, 95.  
     — Thomas, 95.  
 Burgh, Richard, 101, 160.  
     — William, 160.  
 Burrowes, Richard, 101.  
 Butcher, Elizabeth, 96, 189.  
     — James, 189,  
     — Jenett, 97.  
     — Jo., 91.  
     — John, 91, 94, 96, 97, 189, 203,  
     204.  
     — Rev. Mr., 61.  
     — Richard, 119, 189.  
     — Robert, 91, 189.  
     — Thomas, 61.  
     — William, 61, 189.  
 Butler, Alexander, 188.\*  
     — Anne, 160.  
     — Bridget, 159.  
     — Nicholas le, 9, 15.  
     — Richard, 80, 91, 171, 187.  
     — Robert, 159, 160.  
     — St. John, 68.  
     — Thomas, 162.  
     — William, 12.  
 Bylbocke, William, 71.  
 Byllinge, Hughe, 71.  
 Byllynche, Hughe, 71.  
 CALOE, William, 93.  
     — Calvert, Elizabeth, 127.  
     — James, 127.  
     — John, 127.  
 Cancefeld, Dominus de, 20.  
 Caplo, Rob'tus, 18.  
 Capper, Ralphe, 203.  
     — William, 202.  
 Cardwell, Myles, 110.  
     — Richard, 110.  
 Carleton, Elizabeth, 173.  
     — George, 171, 172, 173, 174, 188.\*  
     — George de, 10, 11, 12.  
     — Godrich de, 18, 170.  
     — Henry de, 9, 17, 20, 21, 170, 171,  
     172, 210.  
     — Henry de Parva, 18.  
     — Jane, 174.  
     — Johanna, 173.  
     — John, 170.  
     — Laurence, 188.\*  
     — Lawrence, 171, 174, 175.  
     — Margaret, 170, 171, 175.  
     — Margery, 174, 175.  
     — Mary, 174, 188.  
 Carleton, Michael de, 13.  
     — Thomas, 171, 172, 173.  
     — Thomas de, 172.  
     — William, 16, 17, 172, 173, 174, 175,  
     188\*.  
     — William de, 170, 172.  
 Carlton, Matilda de, 170.  
     — Walter, 21.  
     — Walter de, 170.  
 Carter, John, 94.  
     — Margaret, 104.  
     — William, 94.  
 Cartmell, John, 32.  
 Casson, William, 33.  
 Cawthornes, Mr., 80.  
 Cecil, William, 154, 155.  
 Challoner, Bishop, 181.  
 Chanon, Sir Gilbert Isworth, 127.  
 Charnley, Catherine, 188.  
     — Peter, 188.  
 Charnock, Elizabeth, 184.  
 Cheney, Edmund, 159.  
     — Elizabeth, 159.  
     — John, 159.  
 Clark, Louisa, 51, 52, 86.  
     — Rev. Samuel, 63.  
     — Thomas, 86.  
     — Rev. Thomas, 51, 52, 66, 86, 87.  
     — Rev. T. H., 52.  
 Clarke, George, 32.  
     — Rev. T., 48, 49.  
 Clarkson, John, 118.  
 Clayton, Rev. William de, 65, 67.  
     — William de, 14.  
 Clerke, Sir Robert, 42, 65, 70.  
 Clifton, Captain Francis, 187.  
     — Caterina de, 13.  
     — Cuthbert, 23.  
     — Elizabeth, 171.  
     — Gilbert de, 21.  
     — Jane, 158.  
     — Lord John, 158.  
     — Robert, 171, 173.  
     — Thomas, 23.  
     — Thomas de, 13.  
     — William, 175.  
     — William de, 124.  
 Coderussalus, Ric'us, 19.  
 Cokerham, William de, 23.  
 Cokersand, Abbot of, 127.  
 Cole, Thomas, 188.\*  
 Compste, William, 90.  
 Compstie [Comstey?], William, 32.  
 Coniers, Christopher, 129, 157.\*

- Conlors, Mr., 140.  
 — Mrs., 139.  
 Cooban, John, 80.  
 Cookson, Rev. James, 62.  
 — William, 48, 49, 89.  
 Cornwhite, Thomas, 46.  
 Cottam, John, 49.  
 Cotton, Mr., 75.  
 — William, 32.  
 Cowbern, George, 26.  
 Coweban, Bridget, 110.  
 Coweborne, Lawrance, 112.  
 Crane, George, 103.  
 — Thomas, 103.  
 Crankeshagh, William de, 65, 68.  
 Creane, James, 32.  
 — Robert, 32.  
 — Thomas, senr., 32.  
 — Thomas, junr., 32.  
 Crene, Anne, 190.  
 — John, 190.  
 — Margery, 190.  
 — Robert, 190.  
 — William, 190.  
 Croft, Joh'n de, 210.  
 Crokoe, John, 93.  
 — Richard, 93.  
 — Robert, 101.  
 Cromwell, Bridget, 158.  
 — Oliver, 158.  
 Crone, Alice, 93.  
 — Anne, 100.  
 — John, 11, 68, 90, 94.  
 — Rob'te, 93, 94.  
 — Robert, 9, 89.  
 Crookhall, John, 112.  
 — Robert, 31.  
 Crookes, Alice, 196.  
 Crookoe, John, 190.  
 — Margery, 190.  
 — Robert *alias* Rossall, 190.  
 — William, 190.  
 Cropper, Henry, 71.  
 — James, 71.  
 — Rev. Richard, 65, 70, 191, 192, 194, 196.  
 — Richard, 71, 128.  
 — Sir Richard, 70, 192.  
 — Thomas, 71.  
 Crosse, Adam del, 8.  
 Croune, Robert, 102.  
 Curwen, Richard, 117.  
 — Robert, 117.  
 — Thomas, 130.  
 DAA, Henr' le, 19.  
 — Dagger, John, 203.  
 — Richard, 203.  
 — Thomas, 33, 101.  
 — Rev. William, 119.  
 Daire, John, 101.  
 — Henric, 100.  
 Dalton, Colonel, 187.  
 — Robertus de, 210.  
 Daus, Jane, 204.  
 Dautesey, Catherine, 45.  
 Davie, Henry, 95.  
 — James, 32.  
 — John, 89, 95.  
 — Richard, 32, 89.  
 — Thomas, 89.  
 Davis, Richard, 30.  
 Davy, William, 12.  
 Dawson, Richard, 90.  
 Dayson, Thomas, 105.  
 — X'pofer, 105.  
 Demand, Richard le, 6.  
 Denn, John de, 210.  
 Denny, Henry, 158.  
 — Katharine, 158.  
 Derby, Earl of, 17, 30, 31.  
 — Lord, 185.  
 Dewhurst, Richard, 49.  
 Dickson, Luke, 99.  
 — Richard, 26, 46, 117.  
 — Thomas, 32, 88, 89, 99, 102, 105, 106, 107.  
 Dicksonn, Thomas, 99.  
 Dieulacres, Abbot of, 124, 135.  
 Dobson, Ellenn, 108.  
 — John, 48, 119.  
 — Richard, 31.  
 Dobsonne, John, 32.  
 — Thomas, 32.  
 Dodding, Colonel George, 30.  
 Dodsworth, 3.  
 Doggeson, Richard, 16.  
 Doughty, James, 102.  
 — John, 99.  
 — Peter, 99.  
 Durant, Rev. Isaac, 63.  
 Durham, William, 32.  
 Durhame, Ellen, 102.  
 — George, 97.  
 — John, 89.  
 — Robert, 97.  
 Durrain, Alice, 190.  
 — George, 90.  
 — John, 190.  
 — Margaret, 190.



Durram, William, 190.  
 Dutton, Thomas, 188.\*  
 — Thomas de, 68.  
 Dyrham, Alice, 190.  
 — Catherine, 191.  
 — Ellen, 191.  
 — George, 190, 191.  
 — John, 190.  
 — Margaret, 190.  
 — Roger, 190, 191.  
 — William, 190.

**E**ALEY, John, 196.  
 — William, 196.  
 Eccleston, Elizabeth, 177.  
 — Jenet, 93.  
 — Lancelot, 101.  
 — Parson, 92.  
 — Randulphi, 93.  
 Eccleston, Will's de, 8.  
 Eccleston, Robert, 202.  
 Ellele, Ric'us de, 14.

**F**ABR', Ric'us, 18.  
 — Farbrother, William, 32.  
 Fair, Thomas, 49.  
 Fare, Nich., 202.  
 Farrington, Alice, 188.\*  
 — Fleetwood, 164.  
 — Robert, 164.  
 — Thomas, 188.\*  
 Farynton, Richard, 69.  
 Fayle, William, 26.  
 flare, Nich., 202.  
 — Rich., 203.  
 farshaw, Jane, 110.  
 — John, 204.  
 — Richard, 110.  
 farthoughe, Alice, 101.  
 fayle, Ellis, 96.  
 — John, 80.  
 — Richard, 96, 107.  
 faylle, George, 111.  
 fayrecloughe, Clarence, 96.  
 — Lawrence, 93, 96.  
 — Margerie, 93.  
 ffisher, Isabell, 100.  
 — John, 94, 191.  
 — Lislle, 110.  
 — Margaret, 191.  
 — Margaret, 102.  
 — Peter, 105, 110.  
 — Richard, 94, 95, 105, 191.  
 — Robert, 95, 110.  
 — Thomas, 191.

ffisher, William, 110, 191, 204.  
 ffletcher, Hennery, 204.  
 — Ric., 90.  
 fleetwood, Bridgett, 101.  
 — Thomas, 125.  
 fleetwoode, Anne, 161, 163.  
 — Margaret, 161, 163.  
 fletewood, Elizabeth, 80.  
 — Richard, 202.  
 fletwoode, Edmund, 96.  
 — John, 96.  
 fforshaw, John, 203.  
 fforshawe, Alice, 96.  
 — John, 96.  
 ffrance, Jenet, 102.  
 ffrancis, John, 100.  
 ffreckleton, Ellen, 112.  
 — George, 103.  
 — John, 103.  
 — Robert, 102.  
 Fielding, Gabriel, 188.  
 — John, 188.  
 Firth, Rev. Raywood, 87.  
 — Rev. Raywood, *uxor*, 87.  
 Fishburn, Thomas, 40.  
 Fisher, Rev. James, 119.  
 — John, 32.  
 — Rev. John, 77.  
 — Laurence, 31.  
 — Mr., 198.  
 — Peter, 60, 110, 111.  
 — Richard, 31.  
 — Rev. Robert, 77.  
 — William, 31, 110.  
 Fishwick, Robert, 48.  
 Fitzherbert-Brockholes, J., 68.  
 Fitz-Hugh, Sir Henry, 40.  
 Fleetwood, Anne, 158, 159, 160, 162.  
 — Barbara, 157.  
 — Bridget, 72, 101, 157, 158, 160.  
 — Catherine, 162.  
 — Charles, 158.  
 — Edmund, 23, 33, 72, 79, 135, 136, 140, 150, 151, 152, 157, 158, 159, 160, 164.  
 — Edward, 72, 79, 81, 136, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 188.\*  
 — Elizabeth, 159, 160, 162, 163, 164, 165.  
 — Everill, 162.  
 — family of Rossall, 157.  
 — Francis, 158, 160, 161, 163, 164, 165.  
 — George, 159.

- Fleetwood, Henry, 157, 165.  
 — James, 159.  
 — Jane, 162, 188.\*  
 — John, 42, 72, 157, 165.  
 — John de, 157.  
 — Lady, 161.  
 — Lord, 158.  
 — Margaret, 79, 158, 163, 164, 165, 166.  
 — Marie, 76, 163.  
 — Mary, 162, 164, 165.  
 — Michael, 159.  
 — P. Hesketh, 35.  
 — Paul, 159, 160, 163, 164, 165.  
 — Prudence, 164.  
 — Richard, 23, 31, 43, 45, 78, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 201.  
 — Robert, 158, 159, 160, 161.  
 — Samuel, 164.  
 — Sir George, 158.  
 — Sir Hesketh, 3.  
 — Sir Miles, 158.  
 — Sir Paul, 23, 76, 161, 163, 164.  
 — Sir P. H., 23.  
 — Sir William, 158.  
 — Susanna, 165, 166.  
 — Thomas, 72, 136, 157, 158, 159, 165.  
 — Veal, 166.  
 — William, 23, 72, 131, 157, 159, 163.  
 Fochour, John, 11.  
 — Thomas, 11.  
 Foster, Benjamin, 161.  
 — Charles, 161, 164.  
 — Mary, 164.  
 Francis, Andrew, 157.  
 — Barbara, 157, 160.  
 Francisca, Maria Winfreda, 18.  
 Freckleton, Grace, 84.  
 — Rev. Robert, 65, 73, 74, 75.  
 — Rev. Roger, 84.  
 Fritzherbert-Brockholes Joseph, 168.  
**G**AIRSTANG, Paulinus de, 7.  
 Galfredus, prior of Lancaster, 208.  
 Galt, William, 12.  
 Galter, John, 103.  
 Gamello, 65.  
 Gant, Ann, 78.  
 Garcia, Senor. Pedro, 167.  
 — Verginie, 167.  
 Garden, Patrick, 163.  
 Garlecke, Jane, 191.  
 Garlecke, Richard, 191.  
 — Thomas, 191.  
 — William, 191.  
 Garlice, John, 102.  
 Garlick, William, 32.  
 Garlicke, Antonii, 93.  
 — Richard, 32.  
 — William, 33, 91.  
 Garneous, frater, 208.  
 Gaskell, Henrie, 94.  
 — Nicholai, 94.  
 — Thomas, 204.  
 Gastrell, Bishop, 27, 91.  
 Gaule, John, 98.  
 — Robert, 98.  
 Gaulter, Richard, 89.  
 — William, 90.  
 Gaultier, John, 19.  
 — William, 48.  
 Gaunt, John of, 22.  
 Gentill, Willielmus de, 210.  
 Gerard, Cicely, 186, 188.\*  
 — Colonel C., 187.  
 — Gilbert Lord, 188.\*  
 — Grace, 186.  
 — Miles, 186, 188.\*  
 — Sir Thomas, 174.  
 — William, 188.\*  
 Gibson, Rev. Mr., 60.  
 Gildchrist, Robert, 202.  
 Gildchriste, Margaret, 101.  
 Gillow, George, 129, 157.  
 — John Allen, 157.\*  
 Glave, Robert, 203.  
 Glender, Roger, 11.  
 Goose, Elizabeth, 100.  
 — Jenett, 100.  
 — Martin, 100, 101.  
 — Roger, 100.  
 Gornall, Thomas, 89.  
 Greenacres, Rev. Mr., 73.  
 Greene, Robert, 89, 90.  
 Greenhalgh, Sir Richard, 72, 192.  
 Greenhall, Rev. Richard, 65, 72.  
 — William, 32.  
 Gregson, 29.  
 — Louisa, 86.  
 Grenole, Cecilia de, 5.  
 — Radulphus de, 5.  
 Grimbaldeston, William, 89.  
 Grimbalsen, Thomas, 121.  
 Grimbalsen, Hugonis, 97.  
 Grymbalsen, Margaret, 97.  
 Gudlawe, Thomas, 94.  
 Guldane, William, 179.

- H** ABART, Josiah, 162.  
     Haddock, George, 147.  
     — Mistress Aloysa, 146.  
     — Mr., 146.  
 Haiholm, Nich'us de, 18.  
 Hall, Ann, 48, 80.  
     — Christopher, 79.  
     — Ellin, 93.  
     — Rev. George, 61.  
     — Henry, 103.  
     — Jennet, 109.  
     — John, 89.  
     — Maria, 79.  
     — Mary, 80.  
     — Mrs., 79.  
     — Parson, 80.  
     — Richard, 80, 164.  
     — Robert, 93, 119, 202.  
     — Samuel, 80.  
     — Timothy, 79, 164.  
     — Rev. Timothy, 65, 79, 80, 197.  
 Halle, Adam del, 19, 170.  
 Hamilton, John de, 9.  
 Hardingham, Rev. C. N., *uxor*, 87.  
 Hardman, Agnes, 103.  
     — Ann, 97.  
     — Elizabeth, 106.  
     — George, 89, 90.  
     — John, 94.  
     — Richard, 89, 97.  
     — Thomas, 94, 100, 103, 106.  
 Harrington, Sir James, 10.  
 Harrison, Agnes, 51, 58, 94.  
     — Alice, 78.  
     — Ann, 51, 78, 79.  
     — Benjamin, 79.  
     — Catherine, 78.  
     — Dorothy, 58.  
     — Ellen, 58.  
     — Ellis, 107.  
     — Elizabeth, 78.  
     — George, 79.  
     — Jeffrey, 79.  
     — John, 32, 58, 79.  
     — Joseph, 77, 78.  
     — Margaret, 58, 78, 115.  
     — Mary, 113.  
     — Richard, 6, 19, 58, 89, 90, 94.  
     — Rev. Richard, 51, 65, 77, 115.  
     — Robert Bickerstaff, 58.  
     — Thomas, 78, 79, 113.  
     — William, 51, 54, 107.  
 Harrobin, Georgei, 97.  
     — John, 97.  
 Harryngton, Sir William, 10.  
 Haryngton, James de, 68.  
     — Thomas, 10.  
     — Thomas de, 68.  
 Harynton, Sir Thomas, 68.  
 Hasting, Samuel, 64.  
 Haule, Robert, 90.  
 Hawkesworth, Rosamond, 129.  
     — William, 129.  
 Hawll, Margaret, 192.  
     — William, 191.  
 Hayes, Ralph, 204.  
 Heardson, John, 100.  
     — Thomas, 100.  
 Heber, Josiah, 162.  
     — Reginal, 162, 163.  
     — Reginald, 160.  
     — Thomas, 162.  
 Hebson, John, 111.  
 Hemer, Anne, 117.  
     — Elizabeth, 117.  
     — James, 117.  
     — John, 116.  
 Henganson, Joh., 90.  
 Hentwisle, Robert, 32.  
 Heschetus, Thomas, 134.  
 Hesketh, Adelaide Fleetwood, 84.  
     — Agnes, 129.  
     — Anna Maria, 166.  
     — Anna Maria Alice, 84.  
     — Anna Maria Emily Fleetwood, 84.  
     — Bartholomew, 167.  
     — Bold Fleetwood, 52, 166.  
     — Caroline Sumner Fleetwood, 84.  
     — Charles, 84.  
     — Charles Fleetwood, 84.  
     — Rev. Charles, 66, 84, 166.  
     — Debonnaire Fleetwood, 84.  
     — Edward Fleetwood, 84, 166.  
     — Edward Thomas, 52, 166.  
     — Elizabeth, 129.  
     — Fleetwood, 53, 166.  
     — Frances, 53, 82.  
     — Francis Elizabeth, 166.  
     — Francis Margaret, 166.  
     — Gabriel, 186.  
     — George, 129, 157,\* 167, 168.  
     — Grace, 186.  
     — Hannah Marie, 166.  
     — Henry, 166.  
     — John, 168.  
     — Katherine, 168.  
     — Maria, 166.  
     — Martha Maria, 166.  
     — Miss, 92.  
     — Perpetua, 168.

- Hesketh, Peter, 84, 166.  
 — Sir Peter, 167.  
 — Robert, 84, 166.  
 — Robert Fleetwood, 166.  
 — Roger, 46, 166.  
 — Richard, 104.  
 — Sarah, 166.  
 — Thomas, 24, 168.  
 — Sir Thomas Dalrymple, 83.  
 — Wilfred, 167.  
 — William, 12, 129, 157,\* 167, 168.  
 Hestholme, Ric'us de, 23.  
 Heton, Joh'es, 14.  
 — John de, 14.  
 — Roger de, 169.  
 — William de, 169.  
 Hetton, Roger de, 124.  
 Hewitson, A., 79.  
 — William, 60, 61.  
 Hey, Alice, 104.  
 — George, 96.  
 — Giles, 173.  
 — John, 96.  
 — Thomas, 11.  
 Higginson, John, 32.  
 — William, 26.  
 Hikanson, Georgij, 103.  
 Hine, Henry, 83.  
 — John, 83.  
 — Rev. Nathaniel, 66, 83.  
 — Sophia, 83.  
 Hinxton, Richard, 112.  
 Hitchins, Catharine, 78.  
 — John, 78.  
 Hobson, Isabel, 201.  
 — John, 203.  
 — Thomas, 89.  
 Hodson, Margaret, 101.  
 Hodgeson, Isabell, 104.  
 — Jane, 113.  
 — Jenett, 96.  
 — John, 95, 96, 104.  
 — Richard, 93.  
 — William, 93.  
 Hodgston, William, 95.  
 Hodgson, Agnes, 176.  
 — Ellinor, 176.  
 — George, 113.  
 — John, 12, 32, 46, 90, 106, 121, 176, 196.  
 — Katherine, 176, 177.  
 — Margaret, 176, 202.  
 — Richard, 89, 114.  
 — Robert, 119.  
 — Thomas, 72, 106, 119, 176, 177.  
 Hodgson, William, 32, 89, 90.  
 Hodgson, John, 106.  
 Hodgsonne, Ellin, 102.  
 — George, 32.  
 — Robert, 32.  
 Hoggard, John, 89.  
 — William, 95.  
 Hoggarde, John, 95.  
 Hoghton, Ann, 185.  
 — John, 186.  
 — Mary, 186.  
 — Mr., 185, 186.  
 — Thomas, 185.  
 — Sir William, 172.  
 Hogson, John, 128, 192.  
 — Katherine, 192.  
 — Margaret, 192.  
 — Thomas, 42, 192.  
 Hogle, Robert, 101.  
 Hoheth, William de, 9.  
 Holcroft, John, 68.  
 Holcrofts of Marton, 24.  
 Holme, Elizabeth, 94.  
 — Jacobi, 94.  
 Holt, Sir Thomas, 29, 182.  
 Hoole, Elizabeth, 202.  
 Hornby, Dorothy, 50, 54.  
 — Edmund, 48, 54, 189.  
 — Geoffrey, 50, 54.  
 — Margaret, 54.  
 — Sufanna, 54.  
 — W. H., 188.  
 — William, 26.  
 Horneby, Ann, 113.  
 — Edmund, 113.  
 — Jeffrey, 113.  
 — John de, 6, 49.  
 Hornbye, Edmond, 201.  
 Horrocks, Mr., 169.  
 Houghton, Colonel, 187.  
 — John, 188.\*  
 — Mary, 188.\*  
 — Richard, 175, 184.  
 — Sir Richard, 42.  
 Houldin, Margery, 26.  
 Houll, William, 99.  
 — X'pofe, 99.  
 Huddleston, Mr., 140.  
 Hudson, Janet, 78, 79.  
 Hull, Agnes, 95, 109, 195.  
 — Alice, 49, 193.  
 — Arthur, 192.  
 — Arthure, 98.  
 — Rev. Canon, 45.  
 — Christofer, 106.

Hull, Edmund, 32.  
 — Edward, 77, 107, 108, 109, 111, 193.  
 — Elizabeth, 94, 108, 193.  
 — Ellen, 105, 193.  
 — Ellin, 101.  
 — Frances, 55, 85.  
 — Frances Mary, 45.  
 — George, 70, 94, 95, 97, 101, 104, 192, 203.  
 — Grace, 84.  
 — Henry, 111.  
 — Henry Mitchell, 56, 86, 111.  
 — Hugh, 90, 105, 192, 193.  
 — James, 48, 85, 98, 204.  
 — Jane, 86.  
 — Jenett, 96, 101, 107, 204.  
 — John, 26, 46, 55, 84, 85, 86, 93, 118, 176, 192, 195, 202.  
 — Dr. John, 85.  
 — Rev. John, 66, 84, 86.  
 — Rev. John Winstanley, 85.  
 — Margaret, 98, 100, 112, 193.  
 — Mathew, 107, 203, 204.  
 — Parson, 92.  
 — Peter, 95.  
 — Peter Winstanley, 86.  
 — Raffie, 105.  
 — Ralph, 192, 193.  
 — Raphe, 98.  
 — Richard, 31, 85, 97, 107.  
 — Robert, 91, 108, 118.  
 — Ruffe, 90.  
 — Sarah, 55, 85, 86.  
 — Thomas, 11, 12, 33, 89, 93, 94, 96, 98, 102, 104.  
 — William, 12, 32, 86, 88, 106.  
 — Williams, 106.  
 — William Wilson, 55, 85.  
 — William Winstanley, 55, 85.  
 — X'poferus, 94, 95, 98.  
 Hulle, Thomas, 11.  
 Humphrey, father, 21.  
 Hunt, Thomas, 82.  
 Hunter, Elizabeth, 110.  
 — Thomas, 110, 111.  
 Huntington, Henry, 11, 68.  
 Hylle, Agnes, 128, 157.\*

I RELAND, John, 113.  
 — Thomas, 113.  
 Ireton, Bridget, 158.  
 — Henry, 158.

JACKESON, Agnes, 93.  
 — Alice, 100.  
 — Robert, 93.  
 — Jas., 90.  
 Jakes, Joh'es fil, 18.  
 Jarvas, Robert, 96.  
 Jenkinson, Award, 32, 91.  
 — Richard, 32, 90, 91.  
 — Thomas, 32.  
 — William, 32.  
 Johnson, Richard, 117.  
 — Rev. William, 64.  
 Jolley, Henrey, 26.  
 — John, 27.  
 — Seth, 26.  
 Jolly, Edward, 25, 26, 61, 122.  
 — Elizabeth, 83.  
 — James, 26.  
 — Mr., 83.  
 — Robert, 162.  
 — W., 48.  
 — William, 26, 46.  
 Just, John, 3.  
 KARLETON, Henry de, 20.  
 — Karlton, Matilda de, 170.  
 — William de, 7.  
 Kellet Thomas, 103, 176.  
 Kendall, Mr., 187.  
 Kindsley, Mercy, 114.  
 Kirkham, Jo., 90.  
 — John, 90, 114.  
 — Richard, 32.  
 Kirkhame, Alice, 100.  
 — Margaret, 96.  
 — William, 96.  
 Knowles, Thomas, 117.  
 Knyght, Adam le, 8.  
 Kriansky, Rev. John Dekrino, 109.  
 Kyghley, Elizabeth, 183.  
 — George, 41.  
 Kynwoldmersh, William, 67.

LACY, John de, 124.  
 — Laithwhatt, Ellin, 101.  
 Lancaster, John de, 210.  
 — Mr., 85.  
 — Thomas, Earl of, 6, 38.  
 — William, abbot of, 28.  
 — William de, 66.  
 Langley, Ellin, 97.  
 — Thomas, 97.  
 Langton, Mr., 185.  
 — Richard, 10.

- Langton, Thomas, 185, 186.  
   — W., 15.  
   — William, 60.  
 Lasey, John de, 27.  
 Latewise, Elizabeth, 173.  
   — Richard, 173.  
 Lathwate, John, 95.  
   — Thomas, 95.  
 Lathom, Mr., 138.  
 Laton, Cecilia de, 18, 27, 29.  
   — Gilbert de, 27.  
 Laurence, William, 16.  
 Law, Henry, 46.  
 Lawson, Laurence, 96.  
   — Margaret, 108.  
   — William, 96.  
 Leconby, John, 188.\*  
 Lee, Dominus Henry de, 20.  
   — Henry de, 21, 29, 170.  
 Leetham, Cuthbert, 90.  
   — John, 177.  
 Leethum, Isabel, 193.  
   — John, 193.  
   — Thomas, 193.  
   — William, 193.  
 Leighton, Rev. David Hilcock, 62, 63.  
 Lekamton, Almeric de, 5.  
   — Amicus de, 17, 20.  
 Ley, Christopher, 69.  
 Lister, Jane, 128, 157.\*  
   — Rosamond, 129.  
   — Thomas, 125, 128, 157.  
 Lomas, Mr., 91.  
 Lord, —, 80.  
 Lorimer, Henry, 193.  
   — Henry, *uxor*, 193.  
 Lovell, Giles, 39, 40.  
 Low, Henry, 46.  
 Loxham, Alice, 80.  
   — Ann, 81, 82.  
   — Edward, 80, 81.  
   — Elizabeth, 82.  
   — Mr., 91.  
   — Ralph, 82.  
   — Richard, 82.  
   — Rev. Richard, 82.  
   — Robert, 81, 82.  
   — Rev. Robert, 47, 65, 80, 81, 82, 91.  
   — Thomas, 82.  
   — William, 82.  
 Lucy, Sir Thomas, 161.  
 Lupton, James, 168.  
 Lytham, Elizabeth, 193.  
   — Isabel, 193.  
   — John, 193.  
 Lytham, Margaret, 193.  
   — Robert, 90, 193.  
   — Thomas, 168, 193.  
 Lythame, Isabell, 104.  
   — Thomas, 104.  
 Lythom, Margaret, 101.  
   — William, 203, 204.  
 Lythome, John, 94, 100.  
   — Robert, 89, 100.  
   — Thomas, 94.  
 Lythum, Dominus John, 65, 67.  
   — John, 68.  
 MACFADIN, Albinia, 52.  
   — Francis H., 52.  
   — Francis William Conry, 52.  
 Mackher, John, 114.  
 Marcer, Thomas, 32.  
 Mariscoe, Nicholas de, 6.  
   — Robertus de, 23.  
 Massey, Alice, 178, 179.  
   — James, 71.  
   — John, 178, 179.  
   — Richard, 68.  
 Massie, Alice, 188.\*  
   — James, 183, 184, 188.\*  
   — John, 184.  
 Mason, Jenet, 71.  
 Massy, Rev. Thomas, 68.  
 Massye, James, 175.  
   — John, 188.\*  
 Matheis, Gilbert son of, 28.  
 Mather, Christopher, 166.  
 Matilda a widow, 17.  
 Mayfield, Dorothy, 187, 188.  
   — Ellen, 188.  
   — John, 187, 188, 188.\*  
   — Joseph, 188, 188.\*  
   — Mary, 187, 188, 188.\*  
 Mayo, Ann, 162.  
   — Mr., 163.  
   — Thomas, 162.  
 Meadows, Rev. Thomas, 63.  
 Merton, Adam de, 21.  
   — Henry, 20.  
   — Joh'es de, 23.  
   — Margerie, 20.  
   — Matthew de, 21.  
   — Michel de, 20, 21.  
   — Richard, 20.  
   — Richard de, 20, 21.  
   — William de, 17, 20, 21, 66.  
 Metcalf, Eliza Debonnaire, 167.  
   — Sir Theophilus John, 167.  
   — Franchis, 104.

Meddleton, George, 161.  
 Miller, T. H., 168.  
 Millner, William, 204.  
 Moche, William, 173.  
 Mora, Walter de, 5.  
   — William de, 5.  
 Morland, Ric'us, 19.  
 Moor, Richard, 118.  
 Moore, Alexander, 110.  
   — Elizabeth, 94.  
   — Hughe, 100.  
   — Isabell, 93.  
   — John, 48, 110.  
   — Margerie, 93.  
   — Thomas, 94.  
   — William, 90, 203.  
 More, Jenett, 102.  
   — Robert, 89, 90.  
   — Thomas, 90.  
   — William, 91.  
 Morecroft, Elizabeth, 196.  
 Mores, John, 41.  
 Morris, Jacob, 63.  
 Molneux, Thomas le, 23.  
 Molyneux, Sir Richard, 23.  
 Moss, Robert, 82.  
  
**N**EWHAM, Robert, 188.\*  
   Newman, Henry, 197.  
 Newsam, John, 173.  
 Newsham, H., 64.  
   — Richard, 160.  
   — Robert, 160.  
 Newton, Thomas de, 171.  
   — William de, 124.  
 Nich'i, Thomas fil, 19.  
 Nicholas, Pope, 38, 125.  
 Nickson, Agnes, 96.  
   — Alice, 120.  
   — John, 90, 96.  
   — Nicholas, 120.  
   — Nicolas, 32.  
 Norris, William, 194.  
 Northcrosse, Adam de, 16.  
   — Roger de, 197.  
 Notton, Sir Henry, 42, 70, 192.  
 Nuttall, Ralph, 112.  
 Nuttall, Christopher, 112.  
   — William, 113.  
 Nutter, Elizabeth, 62.

**O**CONOR, Barnabie, 99.  
   Lisach, 99.  
 Olivares, Count, 133.  
 Osbaldeston, Dame, 183.

Osbaldeston, Henry, 184.  
 Osbiston, William, 109.  
 Osborne, Rev. G. Yarrudd, 64.  
 Owyttacre, Edmund, 171.  
 Oxcliff, Dominus John, 65, 69.

**P**AGE, Joh'es, 8.  
   Parker, Alexander, 169,  
   — Edward, 201.  
   — Henry, 180.  
 Parkinson, Jenett, 111.  
   — Laurence, 111.  
   — Ralph, 188.\*  
   — Robert, 188.\*  
   — Thomas, 91.  
 Paston, William, 71.  
 Pateson, Edward, 94.  
   — Ellin, 94.  
   — Thomas, 171.  
   — William, 32.  
 Paulo, Peter, 131.  
 Pawson, James, 200.  
 Peak, Elizabeth, 82.  
   — Samuel, 82.  
 Pearson, Elizabeth, 194.  
   — James, 194.  
   — Rev. James, 64.  
   — Jane, 194.  
   — John, 90, 107, 194.  
   — Katherine, 194.  
   — Margaret, 194.  
   — Peter, 194.  
   — Richard, 31, 193, 204.  
   — Richard, *uxor*, 193.  
   — Robert, 194.  
   — William, 194.  
 Peerson, Robert, 12.  
 Percson, John, 9, 10.  
   — Robert, 9, 10.  
 Pekyryng, James de, 9.  
 Penwortham, Ralph de, 14.  
 Peper, Thomas, 32.  
 Percson, Agnes, 95.  
   — John, 95.  
 Person, John, 94.  
 Peteson, Will., 90.  
 Pextonns, Christian, 99.  
   — Mary, 98.  
   — William, 98, 99.  
 Pextons, Trynytyre, 98.  
   — William, 98.  
 Philips, Morgan, 131.  
 Philpot, Elizabeth, 160.  
   — Sir George, 160.  
 Pickering, James, 197.

Pierson, Jam., 202.  
 — John, 8.  
 — Robert, 8.  
 Pigott, Rev. Henry, 77.  
 Pike, Ann, 106.  
 — Henri, 106.  
 Pikeryng, Robert de, 29.  
 Pincerna, Richard, 124.  
 — Richard de, 66.  
 — William, 123.  
 — Dominus William, 17.  
 Pip, Jenett, 93.  
 — John, 93.  
 Platt, Ralph, 64.  
 Plesington, Alice, 14.  
 Plesyngton, William, 11.  
 Poictou, Roger de, 37.  
 — Roger, Earl of, 5.  
 Port, Elizabeth, 174.  
 — Sir John, 174.  
 Porter, Alice, 101.  
 — Ann, 104.  
 — Henrie, 32.  
 — Henry, 49.  
 — John, 90.  
 — Mr., 27.  
 — Nicholas, 90, 98, 104.  
 — Thomas, 90.  
 Portor, Henrie, 98.  
 Prescott, Robert, 112.  
 Preston, Thomas, 130.  
 Proctor, Dorothy, 180.  
 Procuratoure, Geoffrey le, 6.  
 Proudfof, Will'ms, 14.  
 Pulton, Adam de, 7, 20.  
 — Alan de, 7.  
 — Rev. Alanus de, 65, 66.  
 — Alyce, 41.  
 — James de, 7.  
 — John de, 7.  
 — Nicholas de, 8.  
 — Richard de, 5, 7.  
 — Robert de, 7, 8.  
 — Rog. de, 8.  
 — Roger, 7.  
 — Walthef de, 7.  
 — Walthew de, 5.  
 — William de, 17.  
 Purson, William, 72.  
 Pyc, Laurence, 90.

QUITESIDE, Robert, 192.  
 Quitesyd, Margaret, 194.  
 — Robert, 194.

Quityngton, Henry de, 17.

RABIE, Ellen, 94.  
 — John, 94, 98.  
 — Peter, 98.  
 Raby, Richard, 32.  
 Radcliffe, John de, 8.  
 Ramell, Agnes, 97.  
 — Isabell, 100.  
 — John, 195.  
 — Robert, 97, 194.  
 — William, 195.  
 Rauthnell, Alice, 195.  
 — James, 195.  
 — John, 33, 195.  
 — Robert, 195.  
 Rawe, Edmund, 195.  
 — Jenet, 195.  
 — John, 195.  
 — Margaret, 195.  
 — Richard, 195.  
 — Robert, 195.  
 — William, 195.  
 Rawlinson, Henry, 166.  
 — Robert, 161.  
 — Maria, 166.  
 Rawstrone, Edward, 105.  
 Raynforthe, Hughe, 71.  
 Reade, Ellin, 108.  
 Reading, Edward, 182.  
 Rede, Isabel, 127.  
 Reeve, Adam le, 6.  
 Reid, William de, 28.  
 Reinfred, Gilbert Fitz, 17.  
 Reyley, Edmund, 99.  
 — Elizabeth, 105.  
 — John, 104.  
 — Richard, 99.  
 Richard the clerk, 20.  
 Richardson, Thomas, 90.  
 — Rev. William, 66, 87.  
 Richmond, Margaret, Countess of, 173.  
 Ric'us, son of Roger, 14.  
 Rickford, John, 135, 136.  
 Rigby, Alexander, 30, 43, 75, 106.  
 — Baron, 42.  
 — Colonel Alexander, 30.  
 — Dorothy, 76.  
 — Everill, 163.  
 — John, 76.  
 — Thomas, 106, 202.  
 — Rev. Thomas, 65, 75.  
 Rigg, Isabel, 119.  
 Rigmayden, John, 173.  
 — Thomas, 173, 174.



Robert the ditcher, 17.  
 Roberts, Hugh, 49.  
 Robinson, Ann, 82.  
   — Parson, 79.  
   — Rev. Thomas, 165.  
 Rodindale, Sir John, 40.  
 Roe, Bernard, 111.  
   — Edmund, 26.  
   — Elen, 203.  
   — Matthew, 32.  
   — Mrs., 79.  
   — Robert, 208.  
   — Thomas, 111.  
   — Tom, 79.  
   — William, 32.  
 Romanus, John, 37.  
 Rosall, Millison, 114.  
   — Nicholes, 114.  
 Rossall George, 204.  
   — Richard, 92, 202.  
   — Robert *alias* Crookoe, 190.  
 Rossekell, Richard, 195.  
 Rostrell, John, 103.  
 Rowe, Edward, 96.  
   — Robert, 96, 177.  
 Rowlinson, Jenett, 93.  
   — Peter, 93.  
 Rudde, Rob'tus, 23.  
 Russell, Edmund, 186.  
   — Richard, 20.  
   — Rev. Robert, 63.  
   — Thomas, 23.  
 Ryley, William, 99.

**S**ALTHOUSE, Agnes, 202.  
   — Antonii, 96.  
   — Harre, 195, 196.  
   — Hellyn, 195.  
   — Jenet, 195.  
   — John, 96, 196.  
   — Marget, 195.  
   — Richard, 195.  
   — Sarah, 204.  
   — Thomas, 90, 117.  
 Sanderson, Jam., 202.  
   — James, 94, 204.  
   — John, 74, 90.  
   — Marie, 74.  
   — Richard, 26.  
   — Robert, 32, 74, 94.  
   — William, 49.  
   — William, *uxor*, 12.  
 Santer, John, 92.  
 Saunders, Anna Maria Alice, 84.

Saunders, Richard, 84.  
 Sawyer, — 61.  
 Schamelsbiry, Bernard de, 28.  
   — Richard de, 28.  
 Schirbourne, Robertus de, 210.  
 Schortered, Richard, 11.  
 Sharp, William, 89.  
 Shaw, Anne, 78.  
   — Esther, 76.  
   — Lawrence, 76, 77.  
   — Margaret, 77.  
   — Mr., 109.  
   — Nathaniel, 77.  
   — Priscilla, 77.  
   — Richard, 78.  
   — Rev. Robert, 76, 163.  
   — Robert, 163.  
   — Thomas, 33, 91.  
 Shawe, George, 32.  
   — Rev. George, 65, 76, 77, 163.  
   — John, 32.  
   — Robert, 70.  
   — Thomas, 32.  
 Sherborne, Robert de, 8.  
 Sherbourne, Roger, 105.  
 Sherburn, Roger, 88.  
 Sherburne, ffulke, 96.  
   — Mr., 109.  
   — Mary, 180.  
   — Sir Nicholas, 19, 116.  
   — Sir Richard, 18, 176.  
   — Roger, 179, 180.  
   — Thomas, 96.  
 Sherdley, Edward, 58.  
 Sherslay, Ellin, 111.  
 Sherson, Anthony, 121.  
 Shirburne, Richard, 8.  
 Shuttleworth, Edward, 168.  
   — Richard, 168.  
 Shyngleton, John de, 41, 183.  
 Sidebotham, Mary, 82.  
   — Rev. Samuel, 82.  
 Sidgreues, George, 98.  
 Sidgreues, Jenett, 98.  
 Silcock, John, 32, 33.  
   — Elizabeth, 102.  
 Silcocke, Alice, 93.  
   — Ja., 91.  
   — Jane, 114.  
   — Margaret, 101.  
   — Richard, 90, 106.  
   — Thomas, 106.  
   — William, 32, 103.  
 Silcorke, Margareti, 93.

- Silkok, Sir William, 174.  
 Simon, Adam fil, 8.  
 Simpson, Mr., 119.  
 Singleton, Alan de, 124, 182.  
   — Alexander, 48.  
   — Alice, 103, 185, 186.  
   — Ann, 78.  
   — Anne, 182, 187.  
   — Annie, 180.  
   — Captain, 30.  
   — Cicely, 186.  
   — Constance, 69, 183.  
   — Eleanor, 69, 183.  
   — Elizabeth, 185.  
   — Ellen, 184.  
   — family, 182.  
   — George, 10, 103, 174, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187.  
   — Hugh, 108, 174, 175.  
   — John, 24, 107, 162, 175, 184, 185, 187, 188, 195, 202, 203.  
   — Laurence, 69, 102, 183, 184, 188.  
   — Margaret, 174, 182, 184.  
   — Richard, 115, 182, 184, 185, 190.  
   — Roger de, 124.  
   — of Staining, 188.  
   — Thomas, 69, 88, 107, 180, 183, 186, 187, 188, 202.  
   — Thomas de, 13.  
   — Thomazine, 185.  
   — William, 175, 184, 190.  
   — William de, 183.  
 Skillicorne, Adam de, 67.  
   — John, 99.  
   — Nicholas, 99.  
   — Richard, 67.  
   — William, 99.  
 Skelmadine, Ann, 201.  
 Smith, Edward, 49.  
   — James, 62.  
   — Richard, 80.  
 Smithson, Agnes, 102.  
   — Alex., 202.  
   — Alexander, 102, 204.  
   — Prudence, 110.  
   — Robert, 203.  
   — William, 48.  
 Smythe, Robert, 95, 103.  
   — Margaret, 95.  
   — Simon, 71.  
 Smythson, John, 94.  
   — Robert, 94, 101.  
 Snede or Sneyde, Rev. Hugh, 127.  
   — Rev. Hugo, 65, 70.  
 Sonkyc, Ann, 184.  
 Sothworthe, William de, 67.  
   — Rev. William de, 65, 67.  
 Sparrow, Major, 31.  
 Spring, Dorothy, 157.  
   — Sir John, 157.  
 Standen, James, 120.  
 Stanlay, Master, 111.  
 Stanley, Elizabeth, 78, 111.  
 Staynolfe, John de, 16.  
   — Robert de, 16.  
 Staynoll, Joh'es de, 13.  
 Stayth, Ann, 112.  
 Steele, Margarette, 100.  
   — William, 100.  
 Stenzeker, Agnes, 104.  
 Sterzaker, Robert, 101.  
 Sterzekar, Robert, 101.  
 Sterzeker, Jane, 101.  
 Sterzeker, Robert, 104.  
 Stevenson, Robert, 36.  
 Steynot, John de, 21.  
 St. John, Sir Anthony, 188.\*  
 St. Martin, John, abbot of, 29.  
 Stockport, Robert de, 18.  
 Storey, Thomas, 89.  
 Sturciyarr, James, 111.  
   — John, 111.  
 Sturzaker, John, 118.  
 Suani, Henry son of, 7.  
 Summer, Rev. John, 73, 74.  
 Suon, Will'ms 13.  
 Swarbreccke, Isabell, 111.  
   — John, 32, 95.  
   — Robert, 95.  
 Swarbrick, Laurence, 32.  
   — Mr., 187.  
   — Timothy, 92.  
   — William, 32, 89.  
 Sykes, John, 111.  
 Sylkok, William, 127.  
 Syngleton, Alan de, 17, 170.  
   — Alis, 183.  
   — Alys, 127.  
   — John, 183.  
   — Richard, 183.  
   — Robert de, 171.  
   — Thomas, 184.  
   — William de, 17.  
 Syon, abbess of, 183.  
   — Elizabeth, abbess of, 69.  
**T**AILOR, James, 12.  
   — Tailier, Elizabeth, 99.  
   — Ellin, 99.  
   — John, 99.

- Tailier, Robert, 99.  
 Tanner, John, 18.  
 Tatham, William de, 6, 14.  
 Taylier, James, 178.  
 Taylor, Henry, 12.  
   — James, 31, 88, 164, 176, 177.  
   — John, 32.  
   — Lydia, 164.  
   — Rachal, 71.  
   — Richard, senr., 32.  
   — Richard, junr., 33.  
   — Thomas, 71.  
 Tempest, Elizabeth, 159.  
   — John, 159.  
 Tennant, Richard, 47, 48.  
 Teylor, James, 95.  
   — Thomas, 95.  
 Thawthes, Anne, 128, 157.\*  
 Thomas, Bishop of Durham, 40.  
   — Earl, 15.  
   — Earl of Lancaster, 22.  
   — quidam *vagus*, 104.  
 Thomason, William, 71.  
 Thompson, Jennet, 204.  
 Thornber, Giles, 54.  
   — Elizabeth, 54.  
 Thornburne, Ellen, 190.  
 Thorneton, Agnes, 15, 16.  
   — Alice, 14.  
   — Almar' de, 13.  
   — Americus de, 20.  
   — Elizabeth, 15, 16.  
   — Jane, 101.  
   — Johanna, 15, 16.  
   — Johannis de, 16.  
   — Katherina, 15, 16.  
   — Laurence de, 14, 16.  
   — Margaret, 14.  
   — Richard de, 17.  
   — Robert de, 14, 16.  
   — Symon de, 20.  
   — Thomas, 90.  
   — Thomas de, 13.  
   — William de, 16.  
   — William Thorneton de, 15.  
 Thornetone, Adam de, 209.  
 Thornton, George, 17.  
   — Henery, 109.  
   — Jenet, 117.  
   — John, 117.  
   — John de, 14, 16, 21, 40, 67.  
   — Katharine, 172.  
   — Richard, 17, 117.  
   — Thomas, 195.  
   — William de, 172.  
 Threlfall, Thomas, 48.  
 Thurstan, rector of Preston, 208.  
 Thurtell, Rev. Edward, 63.  
 Tildeslay, Ann, 99.  
   — Easther, 114.  
   — Gabriell, 99.  
 Tildesley, Gabriel, 101.  
   — Sir Thomas, 43.  
   — Thomas, 180, 202.  
 Tildsley, Thomas, 79.  
 Tinckeler, Agnes, 95.  
   — William, 95.  
 Tinckler, Jacobi, 94.  
   — James, 90.  
   — William, 90, 94.  
 Tinkler, Edward, 203.  
   — Ed., 202.  
   — Richard, 202.  
 Tompson, William, 103.  
 Townend, William, 180.  
 Townley, Isabell, 15.  
   — John de, 15.  
   — Richard, 15.  
   — Thomas, 187.  
 Townson, Mr., 30.  
 Trafford, Edmund, 137, 138.  
 Travers, John, 6, 14.  
   — Laurence, 14.  
   — Roger, 14.  
   — Thomas, 14, 16.  
 Trevenen, William, 51.  
 Truno, Ralph de, 6.  
 Tubman, Edward, 90.  
 Turner, Elizabeth, 83.  
   — Margaret, 48.  
   — Mary, 83.  
   — Rev. Thomas, 65, 82.  
 Tunstall, William de, 172.  
 Tyldesley, Thomas, 165.  
 Tyndor, Dominus, 65.  
   — Dominus William, 67.  
   — William, 68.  
 VEAL, Edward, 178.  
   — John, 165.  
   — Sarah, 165.  
 Veale, Edward, 78, 97.  
   — Jane, 97.  
 Vendeville, Dr., 132.  
 Vry, Thomas, 109.  
 WADE, Richard, 204.  
   — Wadmough, William, 204.  
 Walkden, — 157.\*

- Walkden, John, 97.  
   — Peter, 97.  
 Walker, Ellyn, 71.  
   — George, 71.  
   — Margaret, 71.  
   — William, 204.  
 Walmsley, Thomas, 200.  
 Walmsley, Jos., 201.  
 Walmsley, Mr., 3.  
 Walsh, Agnes, 190.  
   — John, 26, 32, 190.  
   — Margaret, 190.  
   — Richard, 33.  
   — Thomas, 190.  
   — Thomas, *uxor*, 191.  
   — William, 32.  
 Walshe, John, 98.  
   — Richard, 90.  
   — Robert, 191.  
 Walter, Matilda, 20.  
   — Theobald, 20, 35, 124.  
   — son of Walter, 5.  
 Walton, Henry de, 38, 205.  
 Warbreck, Jane, 107.  
   — John, 118.  
   — Luke, 107.  
 Warbrecke, James, 97.  
   — Jenett, 96.  
   — Richard, 96, 97.  
 Warewic, Margaret de, 13.  
 Warrington, James, 111.  
 Watkin, Mr., 3.  
   — W. J., 4.  
 Wayl, Sir Ric., 127.  
 Wayt, Alice le, 5.  
   — Wm. le, 5.  
 Webster, John, 49.  
 Weld, Edward, 18.  
   — Joseph, 18.  
 Welshe, Henric, 93.  
   — Richard, 93.  
 Wenne, John, 6.  
 Wentworth, widow, 112.  
 Westby, Anne, 169.  
   — Elizabeth, 129, 157.\*  
   — Ellen, 129, 157.\*  
   — Helen, 188.\*  
   — John, 169.  
   — Perpetua, 168.  
   — son of, 114.  
   — Thomas, 114, 169.  
   — William, 129, 169.  
 Westfield, Matthew, 32.  
 Wheiring, Agnes, 196.  
 White, Anne, 74.  
 White, Constance, 75.  
   — Dorothy, 74.  
   — Elizabeth, 74.  
   — Erastus, 74.  
   — Grace, 75.  
   — Jane, 75.  
   — Marie, 74.  
   — Matthew, 74.  
   — Rev. Peter, 31, 44, 65, 72, 73, 74, 88, 180.  
   — Ric., 90.  
   — Robert, 75.  
   — Sara, 75.  
   — Sarah, 73, 102.  
   — Susanna, 74.  
 Whitehead, Ellen, 120.  
   — Richard, 117.  
 Whitehead, Robert, 12.  
 Whitsid, Margret, 108.  
 Whiteside, Agnes, 103.  
   — Alice, 196.  
   — Bartholomew, 196.  
   — Edward, 60, 93, 120.  
   — Ellen, 49, 196.  
   — Elling, 107.  
   — Hennie, 101.  
   — Henry, 26, 89, 90, 97.  
   — J., 48.  
   — James, 196.  
   — Jo., 90.  
   — John, 32, 46, 90, 102, 108, 196, 202, 204.  
   — Laurence, 97.  
   — Margaret, 70.  
   — Richard, 89, 196.  
   — Robert, 26, 93, 196.  
   — Robert, *uxor*, 184.  
   — Roger, 49.  
   — Thomas, 46, 48, 89, 90, 93, 107, 204.  
   — William, 71, 90, 103, 121.  
 Whitt, Grace, 98.  
   — Robert, 98.  
   — Margaret, 122.  
 Whynerawe, Margaret, 97.  
   — William, 97.  
 Whyt, Rev., vicar of Pulton, 72.  
 Whyteside, William, 127.  
 Whytside, Robert, 12.  
 Whytsyde, John, 127.  
   — Margaret, 102.  
 Wick, Ann, 100, 118.  
   — Edward, 100, 118.  
 Wilande, Ux. X'poferi, 103.  
 Wilcocke, William, 100.

